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WEI-HAI-WEI.

REPORT FOR 1902.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
June, 1903.

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No. 388.

WEI-HAI-WEI.

Commissioner Lockhart to Mr. Chamberlain.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Wei-Hai-Wei,
13th April, 1903.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the accompanying Report on this Dependency for the year 1902.

I have, &c.,

J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Commissioner.

1.—AREA AND POPULATION.

The territory of Wei-Hai-Wei was leased to Great Britain by China by a Convention made on the 1st day of July, 1898, "in order to provide Great Britain with a suitable naval harbour in North China, and for the better protection of British commerce in the neighbouring seas."

The leased territory lies in latitude 37° 30′ N., longitude 122° 10′ E., and is situated in the Chinese province of Shantung. It comprises the island of Liu Kung, all the islands in the bay of Wei-Hai-Wei, and a belt of land ten English miles wide along the entire coast line. The total area is about 285 square miles.

In addition to the leased territory proper, there is a zone of influence, lying east of the meridian 121° 40′, extending over an area of 1,500 square miles. Within that zone, according to the terms of the Convention, Great Britain has "the right to erect fortifications, station troops, or take any other measures necessary for defensive purposes, and to acquire on equitable compensation within that territory such sites as may be necessary for water supply, communications, and hospitals. Chinese administration will not be interfered with, but no troops other than Chinese or British shall be allowed therein."

No proper census of the inhabitants has yet been taken, but the population is estimated at 124,000, spread among 330 villages, which includes a population of 4,000 resident on the island of Liu Kung. Shantung is always regarded as an overpopulated province from which there is a large emigration to Manchuria.

Whatever may be the truth as to over population in other parts of the province, there is no sign of it in the leased territory, and I have not been able to discover any extensive emigration from it.

Previous reports on Wei-Hai-Wei have dwelt on the extreme poverty of the people.

In my opinion the people, though not wealthy, are far removed from being poverty stricken. In my journeys through the territory I have been struck by the healthy and well-nourished appearance of adults and children and by the almost entire absence of beggars. Extreme poverty wears an aspect very different from that which prevails throughout the villages of this territory.

My view as to the condition of the people is supported by the opinion of Chinese from the south of China, who state that the population of China is roughly divided into three classes—the rich, the fairly well-to-do, and the poor—and assign the inhabitants of this territory to the second class.

2.—ADMINISTRATION.

The Civil Administration was first undertaken by the Naval Authorities in 1898, when the British flag was hoisted by Captain King-Hall, R.N., and Commander Gaunt, R.N., acted as Commissioner.

In 1899 the administration was transferred to a Military and Civil Commissioner, in the person of Colonel, now Sir A. Dorward, R.E., and on the 1st January, 1901, it was handed over to the Colonial Office, Sir A. Dorward continuing to discharge the duties of Commissioner.

On Sir A. Dorward's appointment in December, 1901, to command the British forces in Shanghai, Major Cowan, R.E., acted as Commissioner until the 3rd of May of last year, when I arrived to take up the duties.

The Commissioner is appointed by Commission under His Majesty's sign manual and signet, and discharges his functions under the Wei-Hai-Wei Order in Council of the 24th July, 1901.

Under this instrument the Commissioner is empowered to make ordinances, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, for the administration of the territory, and provision is made for a High Court in which all jurisdiction, civil and criminal, is vested, subject to an appeal to the Supreme Court of Hong-Kong, and for District Magistrates' Courts. The Commissioner formerly had his headquarters on the island of Liu Kung, but he now resides on the mainland at Port Edward, which is the seat of Government.

3.—STAFF.

When I arrived in the month of May last, in addition to Major Cowan, R.E., the acting Commissioner, I found Mr. Hare, of the Federated Malay States Civil Service, acting as Assistant Commissioner, assisted by Mr. Walter, seconded from the Federated Malay States Civil Service, and Mr. Dupree, Secretary and Interpreter, whilst Mr. Danson was in charge of the police on the island of Liu Kung.

In addition to these officers, the Military Authorities were kindly helping the Civil Government by allowing an officer to act as Magistrate on the island and by lending the services of a Quartermaster Sergeant of the Army Pay Corps to look after the accounts, and a Sergeant to assist in the police work on the mainland.

Both Major Cowan and Mr. Hare left Wei-Hai-Wei and Mr. Dupree died soon after my arrival. Mr. Walter was appointed Secretary to Government to discharge the duties formerly performed by Mr. Hare as well as to carry on the work of Magistrate, both on the island and on the mainland.

The Military Authorities were good enough to lend temporarily the services of a clerk to take Mr. Dupree's place, but they were not available for long. A Chinese clerk was obtained, but he had to leave in deference to the wishes of an aged parent.

The death of Mr. Dupree, who was reputed to be *au courant* with former records and correspondence, and the difficulties experienced in securing a permanent successor to him have rendered the keeping up to date of the work of the Commissioner's Office by no means an easy task.

Now that a regular system of keeping records, based on that in vogue in the Colonial Office, has been introduced, and arrangements have been made to secure the services of a competent clerk, it is hoped that matters will work smoothly in future.

It has been necessary to make drastic changes in the Chinese Staff of the Secretary to Government, all the old members of which have left. Their places have been filled by officers who are discharging their duties in a satisfactory manner.

Inspector Danson, who was in charge of the police on the island, has rejoined the Shanghai Police Force, and his place has been taken by Inspector Whittaker, formerly of the Chinese Regiment.

Major Starr, R.A.M.C., has discharged the duties of Colonial Surgeon.

Lieutenant Carr Harris, R.E., during the early part of the year superintended the public works of the Dependency, a duty which has been performed since July last by Sergeant Griffin, R.E.

4.—Advisory Council.

Soon after my arrival I appointed a Council of Merchants resident on Liu Kung Tao to advise me regarding the affairs of the island. Mr. Bridges, of the firm of Messrs. Lavers & Clark, was appointed Chairman, Mr. Fergusson, of the firm of Messrs. Cornabe Eckford & Co., and Mr. Duncan Clark, of the firm of Messrs. D. Clark & Co., members of the Council.

On the departure of Mr. Fergusson for England, Mr. Larkins, of the same firm, was appointed to take his place. I have found the advice of the Council of great assistance to me in a variety of matters and I am much indebted to them for the help they have given.

5.—Finances.

It is not possible at such an early date after the end of the financial year, which closed on the 31st ultimo, to furnish a detailed and exact account of revenue and expenditure of last year, though I am able to state that the revenue was considerably in excess of the estimate of $18,700, whilst the expenditure has been less than the approved estimate of $142,500. A full statement of revenue and expenditure will be forwarded as soon as the accounts for last year have been made up.

The Grant-in-aid from Imperial Funds was £12,000, as compared with £11,250 for the previous financial year. The Grant-in-aid for the current financial year is £9,000.

The balance in the bank to the credit of this Government on the 31st March last amounted to $82,693, say, £6,891, which is a much larger saving than that originally estimated, viz., £4,000.

6.—Public Works.

In Appendix No. I. is given a return prepared by Sergeant Griffin, R.E., Foreman of Works, showing the public works carried out from 1901, when this Dependency came under the Colonial Office, until the 31st March last, and the amount expended on the various works.

The expenditure for 1901-2 amounted to £4,856 9*s.* 0*d.* and for 1902-3 to £4,887 18*s.* 10*d.*, making a total expenditure for the two years of £9,744 7*s.* 10*d.* The expenditure in dollars of last year was higher than that of the previous year owing to the low price of silver.

During the past year much attention has been devoted to making new roads and to improving those already in existence. There are now altogether forty miles of road.

Much damage was done to the roads during the wet season, the rains last year, as the returns in Appendix II. show, having been heavier than during the two previous years. In many places the road on either side of a bridge was washed away, the dimensions of the bridges not being, as a rule, sufficient to cope with the sudden and rapid increase in the volume of water.

Last year's experience makes it clear that the roads of this Dependency must be substantially made and properly bridged to be able to bear the strain which they have to support during the rainy season. Steps have accordingly been taken to metal and improve the bridges of the road from Half Moon Bay to Flagstaff Point, a distance of five miles, which passes through those parts of the territory most frequented by Europeans and Chinese, and also to metal and repair the roads on the island of Liu Kung.

The roads in the outlying districts, which are not metalled and which are not properly bridged, will have to be gradually improved. In the meantime they are being maintained so far as practicable in a proper state of repair.

Formerly there was no suitable pier on the island available for the use of the general public. To meet this want a stone pier has been erected and has been found to be of great use.

The pier on the mainland at Port Edward, which was constructed in 1901, proved to be too low, which rendered landing and embarking at high tide a somewhat wet process. I accordingly caused it to be heightened so as to make it capable of use in all states of the tide.

The question of the erection of a pier in deep water on the mainland, alongside which steamers may be able to load and discharge cargo is engaging my attention. It is evident that if trade on the mainland is to be developed, such a pier will be a necessity.

A market at Port Edward has been completed and is now occupied, and an Abattoir has been erected on the island.

The quarters for the Assistant Commissioner, commenced in 1901, were finished last year, and quarters originally intended for the Financial Assistant, the building of which had been started before my arrival, have been completed.

I am at present in occupation of the former, whilst Mr. Walter, Secretary to Government, is residing in the latter.

Although provision was made in the estimates for last year for the commencement of a Government House, no steps have been taken to erect one, as I deemed it advisable to defer the work until other matters of a more pressing nature had received attention. The house which I at present occupy is in many respects unsuitable, and a proper Government House should be built when funds are available.

The expenditure for repairs and alterations is somewhat large on account of the number of houses handed over to the Colonial Government during the year by the Naval and Military Authorities.

7.—POLICE.

When I came to Wei-Hai-Wei it had been decided to disband the Chinese Regiment. The consideration, therefore, of what steps should be taken, after the disbandment of that regiment, to secure the maintenance of peace and good order and the protection of lives and property of the inhabitants of this Dependency, became one of pressing importance.

With the policing of the territory at Hong-Kong as a guide, it might have been thought that this question was one easy of solution; but it required no long residence here to reveal that the conditions existing in the new territory of Hong-Kong and those of Wei-Hai-Wei are widely different.

In the former case, the natives had lived for about half a century in close proximity to Hong-Kong, and were acquainted with its methods of administration and system of law and police, many of them, indeed, being engaged in trade or working as labourers in that Colony.

In the latter case, the Chinese of Wei-Hai-Wei had never had any experience of British administration until the territory was leased in 1898, and were, therefore, quite ignorant of the principles underlying that administration.

Again the Chinese of the new territory of Hong-Kong did not enjoy a good reputation for orderly behaviour, whereas the natives here have shown themselves law-abiding, docile, and orderly.

The question of cost had also to be considered. The policing of the new territory at Hong-Kong involves a large annual expenditure, and, if the same system were adopted here, the Imperial Grant-in-aid would have to be more than doubled.

After due deliberation I came to the conclusion that the most effective and economical plan would be to continue the system of policing the territory through the headmen of the villages and to retain it so long as it continued to work satisfactorily, instead of dotting Police Stations throughout the territory in charge of Inspectors, who would be unable to communicate with the people except through interpreters, a system which almost invariably results in corruption and malpractices.

That system, which is suitable to the whole of the territory, except the town of Port Edward and the island of Liu Kung, is based on the fact that the unit of society is the family or village and not the individual as in the west.

Headmen are appointed for each village or group of villages and are held responsible for the maintenance of peace and good order in their villages. If any trouble arises, the headman reports the matter and aids in making any arrests that may be necessary.

Whilst recommending the retention of the headman system for purposes of Police, I also was of the opinion that it would be necessary to supplement that system by a small garrison in order to give a feeling of confidence to residents of all nationalities, and to be available when required by the civil authority to aid in suppressing any disturbance or trouble of a serious nature.

As regards the policing of the town of Port Edward and the island of Liu Kung, I considered that a small number of Police under a European Inspector would be sufficient for present requirements, and I further suggested that a European Officer should be appointed for intelligence work and to act as a link between the central Government and the village headmen.

The policing of the territory has been carried out generally on the lines recommended by me and has worked smoothly. There have been instances in which headmen have not evinced too great an eagerness to co-operate with the authorities, but on the whole the result of the working of the system has justified the favourable anticipations I formed regarding it, and it is hoped that the headmen may be encouraged to efficiently discharge their duties by rewarding such as display especial zeal.

The decision to disband the Chinese Regiment has been modified, and it was with much pleasure that I learned that it is to be continued at a strength of 16 officers, 6 non-commissioned officers, and 545 men. This garrison, though larger than that which I recommended, ought to prove in every way satisfactory.

The Chinese Regiment showed during the troubles here in 1900 in connection with the delimitation of the boundary, that it can be entirely relied on to suppress local disturbances.

The behaviour of the men is excellent. They have given practically no trouble to the Civil Authorities, and I doubt whether any other garrison town could show fewer offences on the part of the troops than Port Edward where the regiment is stationed.

8.—Crime.

There has been a remarkable absence of crime during the year. There was one case of murder near Port Edward, and, though two arrests on suspicion were made, it was not possible to trace the real culprits. The other offences were mostly of a trivial nature and were by no means numerous in proportion to the population.

The inhabitants of the territory have generally enjoyed the reputation of a law-abiding and well-behaved people. They have certainly justified this reputation during the past year.

9.—Prisons.

There are two prisons in the territory, one at Port Edward and one on the island of Liu Kung. The former was used for long sentence prisoners, but it has proved unsuitable for this purpose on account of its situation, its structural defects and its want of proper European supervision.

It has, therefore, been decided to utilise it only as a temporary lock-up, the prison on the island being better adapted for prisoners sentenced to terms of imprisonment.

The prison on the island is under the immediate supervision of the Inspector of Police whose quarters will be within the prison compound when certain structural alterations now in hand have been completed.

The Inspector is assisted in his duties as Superintendent of the gaol by Chinese warders, who formerly belonged to the Chinese Regiment and are, therefore, accustomed to discipline.

No Prison Ordinance existed when I came here. An Ordinance has been drafted by me, on the lines of the Hong-Kong Prison Ordinance, and when it is approved, Regulations will be made under it. In the meantime the Prison Regulations in force in Hong-Kong are so far as practicable being enforced.

10.—FIRE BRIGADE.

No steps had been taken to organise a Civil Fire Brigade on the island previous to my arrival. Having arranged with the Military Authorities to take over the fire engine and gear on the island belonging to them, I handed it over to Mr. Matheson, who kindly undertook, at my request, to act as Superintendent, and who has formed a Volunteer Fire Brigade.

To Mr. Matheson and the members of the brigade, this Government is indebted for having come forward in such a public-spirited manner to assist in the important work of extinguishing fires.

On the mainland this Government is dependent, for extinguishing fires, on the Chinese Regiment, which is always ready to turn out when required.

There has only been one fire, of a slight nature, this year, which occurred on the island.

11.—EDUCATION.

So far as education is concerned, most of the important villages scattered throughout the territory possess schools, which are maintained by the villagers.

In these schools pupils are taught, in the manner usual throughout the Empire of China, the Chinese classics and to write Chinese. The fact that the Chinese resident within the British territory are allowed to compete for the first degree in the literary examinations held in the districts of Yung Ch'eng and Wên Têng, which border on the leased territory, acts as a stimulus to the Chinese to continue their Chinese studies.

Notices of the dates of these examinations are issued in the territory through the Magistrate's Office, and the Chinese Authorities report to this Government the names of the successful candidates who reside in the territory.

It has been suggested that the village schools should receive some support from this Government, but for the present it is in my opinion much more important to encourage the Chinese to learn English than to expend money on native schools which the natives are quite able and willing to support themselves.

As a first step in the direction of encouraging a study of English I recommended that a certain number of the sons of Chinese resident in the territory, preference being given to those who are too poor to pay for the education, should be educated free of charge in the Anglo-Chinese School at Port Edward, which is under the Reverend Mr. Brown of the Anglican Mission.

This recommendation was approved. A competitive examination was held, and five candidates were selected who are reported to have made good progress.

In addition to the Anglo-Chinese School at Port Edward, there is also a school on the island of Liu Kung in which English is taught as well as Chinese. This school is under the immediate charge of the Reverend Mr. Buxbaum, a Protestant Missionary, who intends to add to the school an industrial section in which brush-making, wood carving, &c., will be taught.

The Wei-Hai-Wei School is intended for the sons of Europeans resident in China. It has now about thirty pupils and its prospects are regarded so promising that the headmaster, Mr. Beer, intends to erect a new building capable of housing a larger number of pupils.

So far as climate is concerned, no healthier place than Wei-Hai-Wei could be found in the Far East for a school, and as there are many Europeans resident in China, who, in these days of a depreciated silver currency, are not able to afford the expenses of sending their sons home to be educated, it is not unlikely that they will avail themselves in increasing numbers of the Wei-Hai-Wei School.

In order to encourage the study of English among the natives of Wei-Hai-Wei, I think it would be advisable to establish a Government school at Port Edward primarily for the teaching of English, but in which instruction should also be given in the subjects taught in Chinese schools. It would be sufficient at the start to place an English speaking Chinese in charge of the school, who should have an assistant to teach Chinese. Later, when the progress of the school warrants the outlay, a European master might be appointed.

12.—CLIMATE AND METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS.

In Appendix No. II. will be found meteorological observations for each year from 1899 to 1902, which have been recorded by Major Starr, R.A.M.C., Acting Colonial Surgeon.

The climate of Wei-Hai-Wei is certainly one of if not the best in this part of the world.

This Dependency, being situated in the North Temperate Zone on the sea coast, experiences neither extreme of great heat or cold.

The winter is undoubtedly cold, but it is dry, bracing, and exhilarating. When the blizzard blows from the north the wind is bitingly cold, but even in the winter bright sunshine is by no means uncommon. January, February, and March are generally regarded as the coldest months.

The summer heat is never really excessive, and being of a dry nature never causes that feeling of lassitude so common, for instance, during the summer in Hong-Kong.

June, July, and August are the warmest months. The fact that punkahs are seldom used shows that the heat is not felt to any great extent. Those who visit this place are at once sensible of the benefit of the change.

In the opinion of Major Starr, R.A.M.C., who has resided here for four years, and is, therefore, able to speak with authority, Wei-Hai-Wei should become the sanatorium of the Far East, its climate being second to none. Speaking from my own experience I am able to state that it seems to be one of the few places in the Far East which can be described as "A white man's country" all the year round.

The value of such a climate to a power like Great Britain, possessing such immense interests in the Far East, is apt to be overlooked. The sight of 7,000 blue-jackets in the harbour of Wei-Hai-Wei on Coronation Day, the 9th of August last, enjoying a delightful climate whilst their less fortunate mates were sweltering in other parts of China or even Japan, was an object lesson which might have helped even the most pessimistic to realize that Wei-Hai-Wei, on account of its climate alone, is a valuable dependency of the Empire.

Rain fell on 73 days during 1902, the rainfall being 28·84 inches for the whole year, which is the largest rainfall for the last four years.

The rainy season is confined to four months, during which the rain sometimes falls in torrents. On one occasion during the last year there was a fall of almost four inches in two hours, which did much damage, especially to the roads.

Meteorological observations are, through the courtesy of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, transmitted daily to the Hong-Kong Observatory, the Director of which reports that he has found them of use in his weather forecasts.

13.—MEDICAL AND SANITARY.

Wei-Hai-Wei has maintained its high reputation as a healthy place during the year 1902. The public health has been excellent and the Dependency escaped all epidemics whilst most places in its neighbourhood were suffering from diseases of an epidemic nature. A striking feature in the medical history of Wei-Hai-Wei is the immunity it has hitherto enjoyed from enteric and malarial fever, insidious foes only too common in the Far East.

Quarantine was enforced during the summer months against vessels arriving from infected ports, the Quarantine Regulations being practically the same as those in force in Hong-Kong.

As the Civil Government had no Medical Officer available for carrying out the work of medically inspecting vessels on arrival, Vice-Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, at my request, kindly allowed a Surgeon of the Navy to discharge this duty, to whom the thanks of this Government are due.

The fact that no fewer than 1,743 cases received relief during the year in the Civil Hospital for Chinese, situated on the mainland, is clear evidence that the inhabitants of the territory appreciate the benefits of western treatment, though like people in other parts of the world, they are averse from remaining in hospital if that can be avoided.

There is on the island a dispensary for the free treatment of Chinese under the supervision of the Reverend Mr. Buxbaum.

It was established in May last in a building lent by the Government. Over 700 patients have been treated, and the work is increasing as the institution becomes more widely known.

The medical staff of this Dependency is not sufficient, and I have recommended the appointment of another European Medical Officer and two Chinese Medical Assistants trained in Western Medical Science. This increase in staff will enable the Government to have a Medical Officer resident on the island, who will be able to attend to its medical requirements, to superintend its sanitation and to carry out the medical inspection of vessels during the summer months when the Quarantine Regulations are in force.

The two Chinese Assistants will help in the hospitals and the general medical and sanitary work.

The present Civil Hospital for Chinese on the mainland is in an unsuitable building, but steps have already been taken to convert the building handed over by the Military Authorities into a hospital, which will be a great improvement on the present hospital.

As regards hospital accommodation for Europeans the Admiralty has consented on certain conditions to the Naval Hospital on the island being used for this purpose until circumstances are such as to justify the expenditure necessary to erect a Civil Hospital for Europeans.

The sanitary condition of Port Edward and the island is satisfactory, the cleanliness of both places being often favourably commented upon by those who have had experience of other parts of China.

Steps are being taken to remove insanitary buildings and to encourage the erection of buildings of a better class.

14.—SULPHUR SPRINGS.

Soon after I arrived at Wei-Hai-Wei my attention was called to a sulphur spring in the immediate neighbourhood of

Port Edward. This spring had been used by the Japanese during their occupation of Wei-Hai-Wei. Baths were erected by them which still remain, but which have not been properly maintained and now require to be renewed.

Having obtained specimens of the water from the spring, I sent them to the Governor of Hong-Kong with the request that he would allow them to be analysed by the Government Analyst. Sir Henry Blake was good enough to comply with my request and in due course I received the report of Mr. Browne, the Government Analyst, which will be found in Appendix No. IV.

From this report it appears that the water is "a natural sulphur spring water, containing substances of a high remedial value," and is likely to be useful as an alterative and for rheumatic complaints.

As it is well known that the Japanese are skilled in the construction and arrangement of sulphur baths, I have entered into an agreement with two Japanese gentlemen, who have undertaken to construct baths in the Japanese style of material, which will be imported from Japan.

The building is to be completed next summer and will be maintained and managed by the two Japanese who have undertaken to erect it with the aid of a subsidy from this Government.

15.—LIGHTHOUSES.

There are two lighthouses in the territory, one at Chao-pei-tsui, and one at Flagstaff Point.

These lighthouses were constructed by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs.

The cost of their construction, amounting to £1,428 11*s.* 3*d.*, was paid by the British Government in 1901 to the Chinese Government.

The Chinese Customs kindly consented to continue to maintain the lighthouses at an annual cost of about £450 until the 30th June of this year, when they were taken over by this Government, arrears for maintenance for the year 1901 and the first half of 1902 having been paid.

Through the courtesy of Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, Mr. Wall, Chief Engineer of the Naval Depôt here, is allowed to act as Inspector of the Lighthouses, and the services of the light keepers, formerly in the employ of the Chinese Government, have been retained.

The estimated annual cost of maintenance is £300.

The perfect order in which these lighthouses were handed over, and the excellent manner in which the lightkeepers discharge their duties, are evidence of a high state of efficiency in the Lighthouse Service of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs.

16.—POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.

There are at present two Post Offices at Wei-Hai-Wei, an Agency of the Hong-Kong Post Office and of the Chinese Imperial Post Office on the island, the latter also having a branch on the mainland.

I recommended early in the year that an officer of the Hong-Kong Government, experienced in postal matters, should visit this Dependency with a view to deciding definitely whether an independent Post Office should be established, and I have been informed that Mr. Johnston, the Postmaster-General of Hong-Kong, has been instructed to visit Wei-Hai-Wei at an early date.

The present postal arrangements are unsatisfactory, owing to the absence of a regular mail service, but it is hoped that a regular steamer service to and from Shanghai will commence shortly, when the irregularity in the arrival and departure of mails, which causes considerable dissatisfaction at present, will be obviated.

17.—PRINTING.

I found that a printing press had been purchased just before I came here, but no arrangements had been made as to staff for doing any printing work.

The amount of printing required at present for this Government is so small that it did not seem to warrant the engagement of a special staff for that purpose. I have accordingly handed over the printing press on loan to one of the local missions, which has undertaken to do what printing the Government may require free of cost, and to return the press whenever required in good condition.

18.—LEGISLATION.

No Ordinances had been made under the Order in Council previous to my arrival, the requirements of the Dependency having been met from time to time by the issue of Magisterial Orders by the Commissioner, which were carried out as if they had the force of law.

As it was desirable to legislate in the more usual way by means of Ordinances, the system of Magisterial Orders has been abandoned.

The following Ordinances have been drafted and submitted for approval: —

(1) Ordinance to provide for the peace and good order of Wei-Hai-Wei.
(3) Ordinance dealing with mining.
(3) Quarantine Ordinance.
(4) Public Health and Building Ordinance.
(5) Revenue and Licensing Ordinance.
(6) Registration Ordinance.
(7) Public and Bank Holiday Ordinance.
(8) Prison Ordinance.
(9) Police Ordinance.

An Ordinance dealing with Probate has been drafted by the Magistrate (Mr. Walter) and has been referred to Mr. Bourne, Acting Chief Justice, Shanghai, who has kindly undertaken to revise it.

19.—TRADE.

I have to thank Mr. Bridges, of the firm of Messrs. Lavers & Clark, which has been established in Wei-Hai-Wei for some years, for a report on trade for 1902 (Appendix No. III.).

In the opinion of Mr. Bridges, progress in trade has been arrested owing to a feeling of uncertainty as to the intentions of the Imperial Government regarding this Dependency, but that feeling having apparently been removed, he is hopeful that there will be commercial development in the future and the starting of industries, especially as there are already signs of the Chinese taking an interest in local trade.

During the year 1902, 146 steamers, exclusive of Admiralty colliers, Government transports and a small steamer running with mails to the neighbouring port of Chefoo, entered this port, representing a tonnage of 151,809 tons.

When I arrived here I found that the only reliable communication with the outside world was by means of the small steamer referred to above, which was subsidised to carry mails between Wei-Hai-Wei and Chefoo, and that it was generally necessary for those who wished to travel to and from Wei-Hai-Wei to approach it by way of Chefoo, distant 40 miles, there being no regular direct steamer to this port. Such a roundabout mode of reaching this place is obviously unsatisfactory in the extreme.

It is clear that, if Wei-Hai-Wei is to progress, its communications with the outside world must be improved. Many persons have been deterred from visiting this territory on account of the difficulties of reaching and leaving it. With a view to remedying to a certain extent the present unsatisfactory state of affairs, a contract is being entered into to run a steamer weekly between Shanghai and Wei-Hai-Wei. It is to be hoped that this arrangement may aid the development of the Dependency, which will, I trust, gradually become such as to lead to still further improvements in steamer communication.

The imports and exports, as Mr. Bridges points out, are small, but everything must have a beginning. There seems no reason why Mr. Bridges' anticipations of an increase should not be fulfilled.

As to the starting of new industries, arrangements are being made for manufacturing locally pongee silk and it is probable that Wei-Hai-Wei may become a centre for the manufacture of bean oil and bean cake in which there is a very large trade at Chefoo.

The trade prospects of Wei-Hai-Wei have been much discussed during the past year both in the press and elsewhere. The opinions expressed have been either very optimistic or unduly pessimistic. The facts of the case do not seem to justify the holding of either extreme view. Whilst on the one hand the situation of Wei-Hai-Wei does not seem to warrant the anticipation that it will become a second Hong-Kong, on the other hand it possesses potentialities, which, if fostered, ought to entitle it to a rank higher than that of a second class watering place. With the German Colony of Kiaochou on one side, where every effort is being made to attract the trade of the Shantung Province by means of a railway system, which is to extend ultimately from Kiaochou to Chinan, the capital of the Shantung Province, and with the Chinese port of Chefoo on the other side, which has for many years been the commercial port and outlet of the trade of that province, it is easy to see that Wei-Hai-Wei has formidable difficulties against which to contend in its attempt to obtain a share of the trade of this part of the world, though its harbour, which is the best in China, north of Hong-Kong, and the fact that it is situated in the direct line of trade, are points in its favour.

It has been said by a wise American that no one should prophesy unless he is "dead certain." Prognostications as to the future of Wei-Hai-Wei in the present stage of its history must be based on mere speculation. There can be nothing "dead certain" about it and it is, therefore, idle to indulge in prophesy regarding it. But if the finances of this Dependency are carefully nursed and its Government economically administered, there seems no reason why Wei-Hai-Wei should not at least pay its way in time without being dependent on the Imperial Exchequer for financial assistance, and if capital be attracted to its shores, it appears to be fairly certain that a trade will be created.

20.—Government Lands.

When Great Britain leased the territory of Wei-Hai-Wei there was very little land belonging to the Chinese Government, nearly the whole of the land being claimed by private owners.

The island of Liu Kung and also the land on the mainland required by the Military were purchased by the Imperial Government.

When the Colonial Office took over Wei-Hai-Wei, the island and land purchased on the mainland still remained in the possession of the Admiralty and Military, but last year all the houses on the island and mainland not required for Naval and Military purposes were handed over to the Colonial Government, and a fair income in the shape of rents has been derived from these houses.

The question of the ownership of land generally throughout the territory has not been investigated. Such an investigation would involve a cadastral survey, which would be too costly to warrant its being undertaken now.

At present owners of land receive exactly the same treatment as they did from the Chinese Government and I do not think it would be advisable to make any immediate change even if that were feasible.

Land Tax.

The Land Tax in 1901 amounted to $6,480, whilst last year a sum of $14,300 was collected. This increase is due to the fact that the previous collection was not made in accordance with Chinese custom. In the Shantung Province, for purposes of land taxation, the value of the silver Tael, in copper cash, is fixed at a rate which is more than double the market rate. In 1901 the market rate was taken as the basis of collection, whereas this year I directed that the tax should be collected in accordance with Chinese custom, the result being that the revenue from land has been more than doubled.

The Chinese mode of fixing a fictitious rate of exchange for the Land Tax is not one which accords with Western methods, but it is desirable, for many reasons, not to interfere with long-established custom, especially when, as in the present instance, its retention secures a considerable increase of revenue. No objection was raised on the part of the Chinese to the increased tax, which was paid quite willingly—a willingness which may, to a certain extent, be due to a fact which I have only recently discovered, namely, that two years ago the cash value of the silver Tael, which had been fixed for levying the Land Tax at 2,400 cash to one Tael, was raised by the Governor of the Shantung Province to 4,800 cash. It is at the former rate that the Land Tax was collected last year, and I am not in favour of adopting the 4,800 rate immediately, though this might be done later on, especially when it is remembered that the land in this Dependency is very lightly taxed, and that the people in the country are not at present subjected to any other form of taxation.

The Land Tax is paid by each village through its headman, who brings the amount due by his village to the office of the

Secretary to Government, and receives receipts, which he distributes among his fellow villagers. One cannot fail to be struck by the punctuality with which the tax is paid. The issue of a notice by the Government fixing the date of appointment is all that is required to secure the tax being paid in full at the appointed time, without any arrears. Such promptitude reflects great credit on all concerned, and shews how effective the Headman system is for the purpose of collecting the revenue from land.

21.—Mining.

The territory has been visited from time to time by mining engineers, who have prospected for minerals, but up to the present year no steps had been taken to work any minerals.

A company, entitled the Wei-Hai-Wei Gold Mining Company, Limited, with a capital of $600,000 has recently been floated in Shanghai and intends to start mining for gold without delay.

The reports of the mining experts, Mr. Dawson and Mr. Duff, which are given in the prospectus are very favourable, and if the results prove as satisfactory as are anticipated, there can be no doubt that this Dependency will receive a considerable increase of revenue in the shape of royalties.

A reference to the prospectus will show that one of the properties referred to as the Tiger Hill Property is described as being "situated in the zone of British influence, immediately adjoining the British boundary." As a matter of fact the property is so situated that, when mining is started, it seems almost certain that the working will have to be carried on in both Chinese and British territory. To meet this difficulty I have suggested to the Governor of Shantung that this property should be worked under regulations to be drawn up by the Governor of Shantung and the Commissioner of Wei-Hai-Wei, and that the royalties, if mining proves successful, should be divided equally between this Government and that of China. I have every hope that this arrangement will be accepted.

The floating of the Wei-Hai-Wei Gold Mining Company, Limited, has given a stimulus to prospecting, and several applications for prospecting licenses have been received and granted.

A Mining Ordinance has been drawn up and regulations will be made under it.

If the mining increases, it will be necessary to appoint an officer to specially look after this work.

But mining so frequently ends in disappointment that it is well not to be too sanguine as to results until gold has actually been found in such quantities as will secure its being worked at a profit.

22.—CORONATION OF THE KING.

The Coronation of their Majesties the King and Queen was celebrated on the 9th of August with great enthusiasm, and the chief town of the Dependency has been named, with the sanction of His Majesty the King, "Port Edward" in order to commemorate the great event. Seventeen ships of His Majesty's Fleet were assembled in the harbour, including H.M.S. "Glory," flying the flag of Vice-Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, and H.M.S. "Albion," flying the flag of Rear-Admiral Grenfell, two other first class battleships, three first class cruisers, and three second class cruisers. The crews of the fleet numbered about 7,000.

A review was held of the Chinese Regiment under the command of Major Bruce, and everyone was loud in praise of the smart and soldierly bearing of men who only a short time ago were country bumpkins.

Addresses to His Majesty the King were not only presented by the British and Chinese residents of the territory, but also by the Chinese residing in the city of Wei-Hai-Wei, who are still under the jurisdiction of China. Nothing could more clearly show the good feeling that exists between the Chinese and the British than the alacrity with which the latter joined in the rejoicings at the Coronation.

And when they presented their elaborately embroidered scrolls, the Chinese were not content with merely handing them in, but requested them to be hung up *coram populo,* so that they might publicly show their respect for the King by kotowing before them in the same manner as they would have done, under similar circumstances, in honour of their own Emperor. The request was granted and each member of the Committee performed the kotow in the presence of a large assembly of his countrymen. This is the most striking testimony of respect for a foreign ruler on the part of the Chinese that I have ever witnessed.

23.—CONCLUSION.

Taking all things into consideration, I think the progress made during the past year may be regarded as satisfactory. There can be no doubt that the various changes in the administration of this Dependency and the uncertainty that existed in the mind of the public as to the policy of the Imperial Government regarding Wei-Hai-Wei have tended to impede the development of this place. But now that the administration is more settled and the public is beginning to realise that every encouragement will be given to trade, it is hoped that in the future commercial enterprise will show increased activity.

During the year the strain on the administrative staff, owing to the paucity of its numbers, the variety of its duties, and the frequent changes in its *personnel*, has been continuous and trying, but the administration has nevertheless worked efficiently and smoothly. I desire to avail myself of this opportunity to express my appreciation of the services of all those who have so cheerfully co-operated with me in the work of administration and especially of the services of Mr. Walter, Secretary to Government, who has discharged his multifarious duties in a very satisfactory manner.

In the early history of every place there is always much that tends to discourage and to depress and there are invariably those who seem to take a delight in dwelling on the dark rather than the bright side of things and in refusing to see good or hope in anything.

Wei-Hai-Wei is not altogether destitute of such dismal and *nil admirari* critics. But there are also amongst its residents those of a more sanguine temperament, for in an essay on the Dependency by one of the schoolboys of the place occurs the following encouraging statement :—"Like all other British Possessions and Dependencies, Wei-Hai-Wei must be a success." It is with such a note of cheerfulness rather than with gloomy forebodings that I prefer to end my first annual report.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,

Commissioner.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Wei-Hai-Wei,
13th April, 1903.

APPENDIX I.

RETURN of PUBLIC WORKS and EXPENDITURE incurred thereon from 1901 to 31st MARCH, 1903.

Description of Works.	Amount Expended in 1901-02.	Amount Expended in 1902-03.	Total Amount Expended in Dollars.	Total Amount Expended in Sterling.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	£ s. d.
Roads—				
Coast Road	18,559 72	3,352 50	—	—
Chefoo Road	5,500 00	5,789 50	—	—
Tsao Miao Tza Road	—	6,037 75	—	—
Repairs to Road	—	2,647 21	—	—
Improving Mule Tracks	2,415 00	—	—	—
Road Half Moon Bay to Flagstaff	—	4,000 00	—	—
Total for Roads... ...	—	—	48,301 68	4,449 9 0
Piers—				
Port Edward Pier—				
(Extension of)	2,386 00	—	—	—
Alterations to	—	1.287 00	—	—
Island Pier	—	3,463 40	—	—
Total for Piers	—	—	7,136 40	658 1 0
Contingencies and Repairs	816 74	3,554 41	4,371 15	382 4 1
Lands, Buildings, &c.—				
Assistant Commissioner's Quarters	9,177 10	2,318 50	—	—
Financial Assistant's Quarters ...	—	5,000 00	—	—
Slaughter House	2,081 97	120 00	—	—
Gaol	2,200 00	—	—	—
Quarters for Assistant Commissioner's Staff.	—	2,062 45	—	—
Cemetery	—	258 00	—	—
Market	—	3,200 00	—	—
Abattoir (Island)	—	510 00	—	—
Resumption of Property	—	813 05	—	—
Assistant Commissioner's Quarters—				
Additions to	—	1,014 00	—	—
Total	—	—	28,755 07	2,628 5 11
Stores, Purchase of—				
Cement	7,540 40	1,500 00	—	—
Locks, bolts, timber, &c.	—	7,424 55	—	—
Total	—	—	16,464 95	1,542 19 5
Bells, telephones, &c.	—	933 80	933 80	83 8 5
Total	50,676 93	55,286 12	105,963 05	9,744 7 10

C. S. GRIFFIN, R.E.,

Foreman of Works.

APPENDIX II.

CLIMATE AND METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS FOR 1899 TO 1902.

Climate, &c.

Having been resident in the Colony for the past four years, I am able to give the meteorological observations for each year from 1899, inclusive, which are appended.

Situated in the North Temperate Zone on the sea coast and being in fact a small promontory, the climate presents neither extremes of great heat or cold.

One year varies somewhat with another, and the year under consideration may be considered a fairly nominal one.

January, February, and March are the coldest months, but even in the winter bright sunshine is the rule. The winter is dry and extremely bracing and exhilarating. The cold is only intense when a strong north wind prevails.

15° F. was the lowest temperature recorded this year. The weather begins to get warm in May; June, July, and August are the hottest months. The heat is never excessive and punkahs are nearly a luxury.

Rain fell on 73 days, which is about the normal. Total rainfall was 28·84 inches only.

Rainfall.

The two previous years had been dry ones, only 15·76 inches falling in 1900, and 17·16 in 1901. In 1899 22·36 inches was recorded.

The average for the four years would be 21·3 inches, which is probably below the normal.

June, July, and August are the rainy months, and account for more than half the annual rainfall as a rule. This year the rainfall was continued in September and October, over four inches to each month.

September, October, and November may be considered the most pleasant months.

In the spring the high winds are usually prevalent, and fogs occur in the rainy season.

On the whole the climate is a most excellent one, second to none in the East. It compares most favourably with Shanghai, Hong-Kong, and other ports, and is better than that of Japan.

Invalids from the south feel the benefit of the change almost at once.

This Dependency should be the sanatorium of the Far East from Singapore northwards.

For periods of short leave from the Straits and Hong-Kong it should prove most useful for invalids.

A feature of the rainy season here is that the fall is not equally distributed as is seen from the appended returns, and, moreover, every year a heavy fall of several inches occurs in 24 hours, and owing to the natural features of the country, most of this water pours off the hills in large volumes, requiring surface drains of considerable size to take it off. Much damage is frequently done to roads and bridges, &c., by these sudden heavy rainfalls.

The meteorological observations are now being sent daily to the Hong-Kong Observatory, and have been found valuable in assisting their work there.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN for 1899.

1899.	Barometer.				Temperature.						Rain or Snow.	
	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Mean for Month.	Range.	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Range in the Month.	Mean of all Highest	Mean of all Lowest.	Mean daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount collected.
January	30·54	29·85	30·24	·69	48·	14·	34·	43·7	25·2	18·5	4	·14
February	30·33	29·97	30·16	·36	52·5	20·5	32·	42·2	28·1	14·1	3	·63
March	30·29	29·57	30·04	·72	64·	29·	35·	49·8	39·7	10·1	4	·31
April	30·23	29·52	29·75	·71	80·	33·	47·	61·2	45·9	15·3	2	·01
May	29·99	29·55	29·81	·44	88·	50·	38·	74·6	57·01	17·6	5	·66
June	29·82	29·22	29·59	·60	84·	56·	27·5	77·2	63·2	14·	12	4·20
July	29·63	29·28	29·48	·35	88·	63·	25·	80·7	70·9	9·8	11	9·59
August	29·81	29·30	29·62	·51	91·5	64·	27·5	82·5	72·3	10·2	6	3·71
September	30·05	29·99	29·83	·06	85·5	53·	32·5	77·8	64·7	13·1	5	1·81
October	30·32	29·74	30·00	·58	76·5	41·5	35·	63·12	51·9	11·2	5	·64
November	30·41	29·82	30·14	·59	65·5	32·	33·	52·81	40·8	12·01	4	·67
December...	30·35	29·78	30·11	·57	54·5	20·	34·5	42·83	31·79	11·04	5	·59
Mean	30·89	29·63	29·89	·51	73·12	39·6	33·41	62·38	49·29	13·	66	22·36

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN FOR 1900.

1900.	Barometer.				Temperature.						Rain or Snow.	
	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Mean for Month.	Range.	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month	Range in the Month.	Mean of all Highest.	Mean of all Lowest.	Mean daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount collected.
January	30·60	30·00	30·29	·60	42	15	27	30·25	22·09	8·16	6	·19
February	30·45	29·95	30·16	·50	49	15	34	38·67	25·58	13·09	2	·04
March	30·28	29·66	30·00	·62	58·5	21	37·5	46·43	33·69	12·74	3	·92
April	30·15	29·62	29·92	·53	80·5	31	49·5	55·46	43·71	11·75	7	·44
May	29·88	29·17	29·60	·71	87	45	42	70·79	54·77	16·02	5	1·55
June	29·85	29·38	29·65	·47	93·5	55	38·5	75·13	61·08	14·05	9	1·84
July	29·77	29·31	29·51	·46	96	64	34	82·08	70·33	11·75	7	3·83
August	29·86	29·34	29·56	·52	93	67	26	83·63	70·20	13·43	9	3·17
September	30·11	29·64	29·83	·47	85·5	59	26·5	79·65	67·86	11·79	4	·44
October	30·22	29·66	30·00	·56	77·5	43	34·5	66·61	54·18	12·43	9	·98
November	30·31	29·78	30·08	·53	70	29·5	41·5	53·57	40·43	13·14	3	·28
December...	30·28	29·89	30·19	·49	53·5	17·5	36	39·12	29·98	9·14	9	2·08
Mean	30·90	29·61	29·89	·53	73·83	38·5	36·4	60·11	47·82	12·27	73	15·716

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN for 1901.

1901	Barometer.				Temperature.						Rain or Snow.	
	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Mean for the Month.	Range.	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Range in the Month.	Mean of all Highest.	Mean of all Lowest.	Mean daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount collected.
January	30·42	29·85	30·19	·57	44·	15·5	28·5	36·	26·	10·	7	1·68
February	30·49	29·92	30·14	·47	46·2	10·5	35·7	32·	23·	9·	2	0·06
March	30·36	29·75	30·07	·61	64·5	20·	44·5	47·	32·	15·	3	0·07
April	30·06	29·62	29·83	·44	79·	31·	48·	57·	43·	14·	3	0·165
May	30·20	29·65	29·96	·55	87·5	46·5	41·	67·	53·	14·	3	1·31
June	30·03	29·43	29·82	·60	90·	57·5	32·5	78·	63·	15·	5	1·09
July	29·97	29·60	29·87	·37	90·05	63·	27·5.	80·	68·	12·	6	1·35
August	30·25	29·66	29·91	·59	87·5	64·5	23·	82·	72·	10·	6	1·78
September	30·30	29·77	30·06	·53	80·5	60·	20·5	76·	66·	10·	6	3·13
October	30·64	29·01	30·17	1·63	85·	38·	47·	65·	56·	9·	8	4·18
November	30·53	30·03	30·27	·50	66·5	27·5	39·	53·	41·	12·	5	0·21
December...	50·60	30·02	30·37	·58	50·5	11·	39·5	37·	27·	10·	18	2·14
Mean	30·32	29·69	30·05	·62	72·6	37·	35·5	59·2	47·6	11·8	72	17·165

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN FOR 1902.

1902.	Barometer.				Temperature.						Rain or Snow.	
	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Mean for Month.	Range.	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Range in the Month.	Mean of all Highest.	Mean of all Lowest.	Mean daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount collected.
January	30·628	30·126	30·335	·502	48	15	33	37	27	10	6	·12
February	30·725	29·968	30·386	·757	48	20	28	37	27	10	6	·75
*March	30·354	29·915	30·172	·439	65	22	43	46	36	10	11	1·99
April	—	—	—	—	88	37	51	60	46	14	8	1·97
May	—	—	—	—	98	55	43	72	61	11	2	·27
June	30·062	29·320	29·821	·742	89	62	27	76	63	13	5	1·16
July	29·994	29·340	29·808	·654	94	69	25	79	69	10	7	5·18
August	30·132	29·630	29·239	·502	86	60	26	79	68	11	11	7·19
September	30·212	29·550	29·989	·662	88	50	38	77	64	13	5	4·66
October	30·490	29·930	30·234	·560	76	47	29	70	57	13	4	4·23
November	30·518	29·924	30·290	·504	74	37	37	59	46	13	3	·53
December...	30·472	30·000	30·271	·472	62	23	39	42	32	10	5	·49
Mean	—	—	—	—	76	41	35	61	49	11	73	28·84

* All observations were taken on Liu Kung Tao until the end of March, 1902, since which date they have been taken at Port Edward, on the mainland. Unfortunately the Barometer was not available during April and May.

Wei-Hai-Wei,
February, 1903.

W. H. STARR,
Major, R.A.M.C.,
Acting Colonial Surgeon.

APPENDIX III.

Wei-Hai-Wei,
February, 1903.

TRADE OF WEI-HAI-WEI FOR THE YEAR 1902.

Although the year 1902 cannot be looked upon as a prosperous one for trade in North China, we have in Wei-Hai-Wei seen signs of a commencement on the part of the Chinese to take an interest in local trade.

Undoubtedly they realise that with cheap labour, good anchorage for junks, freedom from molestation and petty official bribery, and the great advantage that is obtained through its freedom from customs duties, Wei-Hai-Wei is admirably suited for manufacturing purposes, and the recent rise in the price of conveniently situated land clearly tends to corroborate this.

Lack of local capital, and until recently, the uncertain knowledge of the political intentions of the Government as to the future of Wei-Hai-Wei, have done much to arrest development, and it is to be hoped, now that commercial facilities are being promoted, capitalists from the south of China, who are interested in the local produce and manufactures, may find sufficient inducement to start considerable industries.

Exports.

These, in 1902, being practically new ventures, no comparison can be applied, and the figures should be looked upon entirely as trial shipments, and though small, the results are understood to be satisfactory, which in the future will probably lead to a considerable increase, more especially when a regular service of steamers is instituted.

It must be remembered that the figures taken are only those for exports by steamers, no figures being procurable for junk-borne traffic, which, taking the number of junks passing through the port, must be considerable.

Imports.

Though the bulk of these are imported for foreign use, attention might be drawn to the following, though here again it must be explained that the figures given are entirely for steamer-borne traffic.

Kerosine Oil.—Although a small portion of this is imported for foreign use, the bulk is sold to natives in the territory.

Cotton Yarn and Piece Goods.—This is entirely a new industry, and one much to be encouraged, as being the basis of trade in China.

Liquid Indigo and other Dyes.—This is a new import caused by the introduction of cotton yarn. The natives weave cloth from the yarn, dyeing it "Chinese Blue."

Refined Sugar.—There is a considerable increase in this for native use.

Tonnage.

Exclusive of Admiralty colliers, Government transports, and a small steamer running with mails to and from Chefoo, 146 steamers passed through Wei-Hai-Wei in 1902, being an increase of 31 steamers over the preceding year.

This increase being undoubtedly due to the expansion of trade combined with the commercial facilities afforded by the Colonial Office under the régime of the present Commissioner, it is only reasonable to suppose that the trade of the port in the future will attain considerable dimensions.

LIONEL F. BRIDGES.

Memorandum of Steamers arrived at Wei-Hai-Wei in the Year 1902.

	91	Steamers arrived from Shanghai.
	44	„ „ „ Chefoo.
	2	„ „ „ Tientsin.
	1	„ „ „ Ching-Wang-Tao.
	4	„ „ „ Hong-Kong.
	4	„ „ „ Japan.
Total	146	Steamers arrived.

Memorandum of Steamers departed from Wei-Hai-Wei in the Year 1902.

	91	Steamers departed for Chefoo.
	46	„ „ „ Shanghai.
	4	„ „ „ Tientsin.
	1	„ „ „ Newchwang.
	1	„ „ „ Swatow.
	1	„ „ „ Port Arthur.
	1	„ „ „ Hong-Kong.
	1	„ „ „ Japan.
Total	146	Steamers departed.

Tonnage and Nationality of Steamers arrived and departed in Year 1902.

—	Steamers.	Net Registered Tonnage.
British ...	140	147,443
Chinese ...	2	2,068
Japanese ...	4	2,298
Total ...	146	151,809

Above tables are all exclusive of Admiralty colliers, Government transports, and a small steamer running between Chefoo and this port.

Statement of Exports from Wei-Hai-Wei for the Year 1902.

Sasson	105·00	Piculs.
Ground-nuts	918·00	„
Beans	196·00	„
Salt fish	10·50	„
Vermicelli	92·90	„
Bones	105·00	„
Lime	16·80	„
Metals, old	313·00	„
Foreign stores (re-exported) ...	431	Packages.
Sundries	96	„
Furniture	6	„

Statement of Imports into Wei-Hai-Wei for the Year 1902.

American kerosine oil	32,750	Gallons.
„ flour	5,700·00	Piculs.
Cotton yarn and piece goods ...	1,570·00	„
Refined sugar	4,125·00	„
Paint, varnish, turpentine, and paint oil	245	Packages.
Liquid indigo and other dyes ...	229	„
Bar iron, buckets, wire, nails, and other hardware	966	„
Hard-wood, planks, flooring boards, &c.	4,359	Pieces.
Window glass	48	Boxes.
Candles	63	„
Soap	352	„
Wines, spirits, beer, aerated waters, &c.	7,381	Packages.
Tobacco, cigars, cigarettes	96	„
Tinned provisions and foreign stores	16,636	„
Furniture	656	„
Sundries	882	„
Japanese coal	2,031	Tons.

No Government stores are included in the above list.

LAVERS & CLARK.

APPENDIX IV.

REPORT ON SULPHUR SPRINGS.

Government House,
Hong-Kong,
10th September, 1902,

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your information the enclosed copy of a report by the Government Analyst regarding samples of water which were recently sent by you to this Colony to be examined.

2. The Principal Civil Medical Officer states that from the Analyst's report the water is evidently sulphureous, and is likely to be useful as an alterative and for rheumatic complaints.

I have, &c.,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor, &c.

His Honour
J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G.,
His Majesty's Commissioner,
Wei-Hai-Wei.

REPORT BY THE GOVERNMENT ANALYST.

Government Laboratory,
Hong-Kong,
September 9th, 1902.

Substance for analysis.—Mineral water from Wei-Hai-Wei.

Received.—On August 11th, 1902, from Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, Hong-Kong.

Results of Analysis.

70,000 fluid parts (1 gallon = 70,000 grains) contain:—

Sodium sulphide	2·6
Sodium sulphite	2·9
Sodium sulphate	23·1
Sodium chloride	833·6
Potassium chloride	11·9
Magnesium chloride	17·1
Calcium chloride	314·0
Calcium carbonate	14·0
Alumina and iron peroxide	·4
Silica	9·5
Parts by weight	1,229·1

The analysis shows that this is a natural sulphur spring water containing substances of high remedial value.

FRANK BROWNE,

Government Analyst.

APPENDIX V.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

STAFF.

The year 1902 has been one of constant and radical change as far as the personnel of the office is concerned. The office buildings have been shifted from the dingy little quarters, that once did duty as a Pay Office for the Army, to far more commodious and imposing buildings adjoining the Royal Engineers' quarters. I was appointed Magistrate in May, when Mr. Hare left at very short notice for the Straits.

A new Chief Clerk, Mr. Fung, has been selected to take the place of the former Chief Clerk, Mr. Hu, whose views as regards the lucrative opportunities of his post were discovered to be somewhat too Chinese in character to conform with British ideas of justice. Two new writers have also been appointed, so that it may be said with truth that a "clean sweep" has been made.

2. These changes in the office staff were due to the continual and vexing rumours that reached the ears of the authorities to the effect that bribery and corruption were rife in the Magistrate's Office at Port Edward. A certain amount of corruption is almost inevitable in a Chinese office staff, impregnated as they are with Chinese ideas as to the legitimacy of "squeeze" and other means of gain which are practised with such success in Chinese Yamens. The officials, with perhaps the best intentions in the world, are quite unable to eradicate the evil, and all they can do is to punish it with relentless severity when it is brought directly to their notice. This has been done at Wei-Hai-Wei, and at the present moment I am happy to say that I have entire confidence in the integrity of my office staff.

3. While dealing with the personnel of the office, I must not omit to make mention of Captain Johnson, of the 1st Chinese Regiment who very kindly lent the Government his services during the months of September and October. Captain Johnson is an excellent speaker of Chinese, and he applied a keen and vigorous intellect to his work which was highly successful. He made many valuable suggestions, and imparted a spirit of discipline and order among the office subordinates which has had good results. I take this opportunity of conveying to him my grateful thanks for his purely voluntary services which enabled me to enjoy a trip to Japan. The Government are in my opinon indebted to Captain Johnson for the good work he did and for the many practical proposals that he made during the brief time that he was in command at the Magistrate's Office.

4. The work of the Magistrate's Office may be divided roughly into four heads:—

1. The administration of justice in Criminal and Civil cases, together with the superintendence of the Police force on both the mainland and the island of Liu Kung.
2. The collection of revenue.
3. Registration.
4. Miscellaneous.

5. For the performance of these services the Magistrate is assisted by a staff consisting of

1 Chief Clerk and Interpreter,
2 Chinese writers,
3 Runners,
4 Detectives.

6. The services of Sergeant Major Young, which are to be transferred permanently to the Colonial Government on the 1st April next, have been kindly lent by the Officer Commanding troops, and he has assisted in collecting a small amount of the revenue, in patrolling the town of Port Edward, and generally acting as an Inspector of Police.

7. For Intelligence and Detective work in the coming year, the Government will have the great advantage of the services of Sergeant Purdon of the 1st Chinese Regiment. Sergeant Purdon's knowledge of the language and customs of the people make him peculiarly suited for this employment, and he has already given proof of energy, ability, and zeal, and assisted the Government in many ways.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE AND SUPERVISION OF POLICE.

1.—ON THE MAINLAND.

(A.) *Criminal Cases.*

Crime.

(1.) Speaking generally, the crime in the territory during the past year has not shown any particular marks of increase—nor has it been of a very serious character.

Murder.

One case of murder occurred in the Autumn, and I regret to say that despite all efforts it was found impossible to bring the deed home to the culprit, although two men were arrested and detained under strong suspicion.

Difficulty of getting Evidence.

(2.) As Mr. Hare remarked in his report, it is very difficult to get the people to give evidence against one another in criminal matters; and the more serious the crime the greater the difficulty. This is due in the main to the native dread of revenge, which is a very strong passion in the Chinese mind, and which may wreak itself generations after the obnoxious deed has been committed.

Petty Theft.

(3.) Cases of petty theft have been frequent. Such cases are occasionally referred by the Magistrate to the Village Headmen, but as a rule are dealt with by the Magistrate in person.

Fighting, smuggling opium or wine, keeping houses for private prostitution and gambling are among the staple cases that are brought before the Magistrate for summary punishment.

Assault.

(4.) The cases of assault and fighting usually prove to be of a far less serious character than would be supposed from the exaggerated and copious accounts of these transactions that are furnished in elaborate petitions by the complainants to the Magistrate.

Gambling and Prostitution.

(5.) Undoubtedly the two chief evils rampant in the territory are gambling and private prostitution—the latter known by the expressive phrase, keeping a half closed door, "pan yun men tzu." In several cases the Magistrate has himself raided these gambling dens.

Admissions to Gaol.

(6.) A reference to the prison records kept at the Gaol, Port Edward, shows that between the months January 1st, 1902, and January 1st, 1903, 270 prisoners were admitted to the gaol on sentences ranging from one day's imprisonment to one year. Of the 270 prisoners so admitted, 100 were soldiers or ex-soldiers of the 1st Chinese Regiment. Of these, 40 were sentenced by the Officer Commanding troops for purely military offences, such as sleeping on duty, disobedience to orders, negligence, breaking out of barracks, or gambling in barracks. Of the remaining 60, the majority were cases of fighting and assault, extortion, and living in the territory without permission after discharge from the regiment.

Chinese Regiment.

(7.) In this connection it may be mentioned that the year 1902 has been marked by the reduction of the Chinese Regiment from 1,200 to 500 men. A great majority of the men disbanded have been sent to their homes at Tientsin and elsewhere, but a certain number, perhaps 100 in all, have homes in the territory and have elected to remain there. It is only natural that when a man is suddenly turned loose after having a regular pay and regular duties to do he may drift into evil courses, and this has been the case with a certain number of the men discharged from the regiment, who have appeared before the Court on charges of extortion, gambling, and robbery. The conduct of the men of the regiment who have remained in the regiment has been, on the whole, exemplary, and I have no complaint to make on that score.

Gaol.

(8.) The gaol in Port Edward, which was used during the year 1902 as a prison for long and short sentences alike, has now been abandoned as it was found to be unsuitable owing to structural defects and owing to the inconvenience of its situation. It is now only used for prisoners awaiting trial and for the punishment of prisoners whose sentences do not exceed three days. It is under the charge of a Chinese warder assisted by a sub-warder and is visited at frequent intervals by the Magistrate and by the Colonial Surgeon.

(B.) *Civil Cases.*

(1.) A great deal of time is spent by the Court in hearing Civil Cases.

As the people become more fully acquainted with the methods of British Administration, their eagerness to bring even the most trifling matters to the notice of the Magistrate increases.

(2.) The people of this territory positively revel in going to Court, and look upon it in very much the same light as going to the theatre or other places of diversion. An injured husband will walk 20 miles to inform the Magistrate that he is quite unable to keep his wife in order. An aggrieved rustic will plod wearily a distance of 10 miles to tell the Magistrate that his neighbour has stolen six handfuls of grass that belonged to him, and he will couch his plaint in words of poetic pathos, imploring "the great man to help him, in which case his gratitude will be as the ocean in depth, and the vault of heaven in height."

(3.) But more serious cases than these occur; and the most frequent are cases of debt, encroachment on land, petitions for redemption of mortgage and adoption cases.

(4.) The last often are the results of generations of law suits in Chinese Courts, and imply an enormous number of petitions, counter-plaints, and mutual recriminations. In all such cases the Magistrate decides in accordance, as far as possible, with native customs.

(5.) One of the most frequent forms of law-suit is the case in which the disputants appear to quarrel as to who is the right person to be adopted by the relatives of a man who has died childless. As a rule, in such cases, there is a nephew who undoubtedly ought to be the favoured person, but, unfortunately, there is also a group of cousins of varying degrees of relationship with the deceased. The quarrel rages literally over the very coffin of the dead man, and frequently the burial of the corpse is forcibly prevented by the disappointed cousins. The case comes to Court, and the Magistrate is compelled, in order to get at the true state of relationships obtaining, to draw up a genealogical table showng the various ramifications of the family.

(6.) When I state that in the last 10 months over 380 summonses and 68 warrants of arrest have been issued by the Magistrate, and that the average number of persons brought to court by one summons is about five, and the average number attracted by a warrant of arrest about six, it will be seen that a very great number of persons have appeared in the Magistrate's Office during the past year.

(7.) 800 petitions have been received and action taken upon them by the Court. This alone involves an enormous amount of time and labour.

(8.) During the past year a useful innovation was introduced in the form in which petitions are to be written, regular petition forms now being obtainable at a shop in Port Edward for a price which is fixed at a very low figure.

(9.) I cannot think who it is who writes these petitions for the people; probably the village teacher.

I once asked a rustic who wrote his petition for him, he answered, "I don't know. A man wrote it and then ran away." On another occasion the Court was amused to find a petitioner quote line after line of his petition by heart with great gusto. This gentleman won his case.

(10.) A large number of suits also occur for recovery of debt, and those are in minor cases referred to the Headman of the village, and if they are unable or unwilling or afraid, as they often are, to settle the case, the Magistrate himself deals with them.

(11.) Several suits have occurred for recovery of debts in which foreigners were interested. In dealing with such suits, the Court follows, as far as possible, the procedure laid down in the Hong-Kong Civil Procedure Code.

2.—On the Island.

(1.) As regards the Island, the Magistrate crosses over from the mainland twice a week and hears such cases as have arisen. Most of the cases are of a trivial nature, such as breaches of Sanitary Regulations, depositing rubbish on roads, sampans obstructing the free passage of ships' boats, sampans plying without a license. In such cases a small fine of $1 or $2 has been inflicted.

(2.) Fourteen cases of theft have been punished, and several serious cases have escaped detection—notably, a recent case of theft of $800 from the quarters of the steward of the Naval Petty Officers' Mess.

(3.) Not infrequently, as in the case in question, the theft is largely due to the consummate carelessness of Europeans, who place implicit confidence in their Chinese servants and then come and complain to the Magistrate that their property has been stolen. Europeans have been known to entrust large sums of money in cash to coolies to convey from the island to the mainland, and are surprised if the coolies in question disappear with the money and are never seen or heard of again.

The total number of cases heard from April 1st, 1902, till the date of writing February 20th, 1903, was 131; and fines to the amount of $476.25 have been inflicted, and 19 prisoners sent to gaol.

During the past year great improvements have been effected in the working of the police system on the island. The force is now under the command of a capable and energetic Inspector, Inspector Whittaker, formerly a Color-Sergeant of the 1st Chinese Regiment. There are three constables in uniform, who parade the front street of the island and take charge of wharves and piers, keeping an eye on all arrivals and departures from the island.

There are also three detectives in plain clothes, and it is due to them that so many cases of petty offences are brought to notice.

(4.) The island gaol is directly under the supervision of Inspector Whittaker, who is assisted by one Chinese Chief Warder and two sub-warders.

(5.) Steps are being taken to enlarge and improve the gaol and to bring it into direct and immediate communication with the Inspector's quarters. A new scale of diet for prisoners has been introduced, based upon that in use in the Hong-Kong Gaol. The gaol is inspected weekly by the Magistrate and also by the Colonial Surgeon.

Suitable prison clothes have also been ordered from Hong-Kong for the use of the inmates of the gaol who perform a considerable amount of intra and extra-mural labour, such as stone breaking, road rolling, and gardening.

(6.) All prisoners committed to gaol are photographed in triplicate; one copy being kept for use on the island, and two copies for use on the mainland. Books are kept showing the criminal record of each prisoner, and the photos are pasted into these books.

(7.) In addition to their police duties on the island, the police collect the rents from houses leased to Chinese and Europeans, also sampan fees, dog licenses, and wharfage dues.

Collection of Revenue.

(1.) More than two-thirds of the Revenue of the territory is collected by the Magistrate's Office at Port Edward.

The principal sources of Revenue are as follows:—

(i.) The Chinese Land Tax.

(ii.) Monopolies for sale of wine (native) and opium, also the Government Abattoir.

(iii.) Junk dues.

(iv.) Fines of Court.

(v.) Rents from Colonial lands and houses on the island and mainland.

(vi.) Licenses, House Tax.

(2.) Before dealing with the Chinese Land Tax, it may be as well to point out that there are two annual harvests in the territory, known respectively as the Spring harvest, "Chun chi," and Autumn harvest, "Chiu chi."

The Spring harvest of 1902 was very poor owing to drought.

This harvest takes place in the fifth Moon or June, and is essentially a wheat harvest.

The Autumn harvest consists of various kinds of millet, of beans, sweet potatoes and other vegetables, and Indian maize.

This harvest last year was exceptionally good with the exception of the beans, which were spoilt by unseasonable rains.

Chinese Land Tax.

(3.) The Land Tax for 1902 was collected upon a basis of 2,400 cash to the Tael, in order to make it correspond with the rate at which it is collected outside the territory. This rate is just double that at which the Tax was collected in 1901, and as a result, the total Land Tax collected amounted to $14,300, or double that of 1901. The average Tax paid was six cents per Mu (Mu equals one-sixth acre), which appears exceedingly light, when it is remembered that in more favoured parts of China the Tax averages from 15 to 30 cents a Mu, and that in some Southern Provinces the Tax is collected twice annually. In the New Territory at Hong-Kong the Land Tax levied on the poorest land is 50 cents per acre, or roughly 8 cents per Mu and there is no reason to suppose that the average poverty of the whole of the leased territory at Wei-Hai-Wei is any greater than the average poverty of the poorest land in the New Territory at Hong-Kong. It appears certain, also, that before the territory was ceded to Great Britain the Land Tax was collected on a basis of 2,400 cash to the Tael, and there was in addition to this a large squeeze to be paid to runners and official underlings.

(4.) The true reason why in collecting Land Tax the officials fix the rate at 2,400 cash to the Tael, appears to be that the real basis of the silver currency is pure and unadulterated Sycee or "Wen yin." There are various divisions of Sycee. For example:—

One Ting	=	5 Taels pure Sycee.
One Kwo	=	10 Taels Sycee.
One Yun Pao	=	50 Taels Sycee.

The Chinese Government will not receive base metal, and taxes and duties are payable in Sycee of 98 per cent. fineness. Hence it comes that in changing Sycee into cash each Tael is considered as worth 2,400 cash, whereas the ordinary market value of the Tael is only about 1,100 cash.

(5.) In 1900 and 1901 the rate at which the Land Tax was to be collected was fixed by a Proclamation by the Magistrate based on the market rate for the value of cash, *i.e.*, 1,100 cash to the Tael, or 750 cash to the dollar, and the result was that the tax collected amounted to exactly half what was collected for 1902.

(6.) The truest argument, perhaps, for the collection of Land Tax on a Sycee basis, as was the case in 1903, lies in the fact that no difficulty was experienced at all in the collection of the tax at all on this basis, and this is the more remarkable as the alteration was made after the rate had already been fixed and half the tax paid at 750 cash to the dollar, or 1,100 cash to the Tael.

(7.) When the alteration in the rate was introduced, I was strongly opposed to it, but the more I learn about the matter, and the more enquiries that I make into it, the more convinced I am that the Government acted rightly in the course adopted.

2.—MONOPOLIES.

(1.) A second source of Revenue is found in the three monopolies that at present obtain in the territory, viz., opium, native wines, and the Abattoir.

(2.) The opium monopoly brought in a Revenue of $2,350 for the year 1902. The opium farm, which is managed by the Chinese firm "Te Feng," has the sole right of importing and selling opium in the territory. It employs excisemen who report to the Magistrate any cases of smuggling or illicit sale of opium. The penalty adjudged is usually a fine based on the quantity of smuggled opium, and half the fine goes to the farm and half to the Government.

(3.) The same remarks apply to the wine monopoly, for which a sum of $1,200 is paid to the Government annually.

(4.) It has been decided, and I think wisely, to extend the sphere of these monopolies to the island, and a further Revenue will thus be obtained, $550 having been offered and accepted for the opium monopoly and $250 for the wine monopoly for the island.

(5.) The Government Abattoir, opened early in 1902 at Port Edward, is rented by a Chinese firm, who paid the Government $750 for the monopoly of slaughtering sheep and cattle in the territory. They have offered $1,500 for a continuation of this monopoly during the year 1903, and the Government have accepted the offer.

3.—Junk Dues.

The Junk Dues bring in about $1,400 per annum. These are collected by a Chinese firm "I Ching Chan," who are paid $8 per mensem for this service by the Government These dues are included under the Wharfage Dues, *which are* payable by the consignees of goods and are collected by the police on the island, and at the Magistrate's Office on the mainland. Very little cargo is discharged from steamers direct to the mainland, and only about $75 have been collected as such Wharfage Dues during the last six months. On the island the case is different. A very good and accessible pier is there, and the police have no difficulty in collecting the dues which are of a very light nature, being 5 cents per ton on coal, one cent per package, 5 cents per 1,000 bricks or tiles, 1 cent per pikul for grain in bulk. No dues are charged on Government stores, or on cargo shipped from one port in Wei-Hai-Wei to another port in the Dependency.

4.—Fines of Court.

(1.) From Fines of Court the Government of Wei-Hai-Wei derived during the past year $1,350 from the Magistrate's Court on the mainland, and $476 from the Island Court.

(2.) Only in very rare cases has a fine amounting to $100 been inflicted, and in some cases the fine has been as low as 25 cents.

I consider this result shows not only that the Court has been active, but that the people are able as a rule to pay when it is a question as to whether they go to prison or pay the fine imposed.

5.—Rents.

(1.) The rents from houses on the island are collected by the Inspector of Police.

(2.) On the mainland, rents from houses are collected by the Magistrate, who also collects the rents from natives cultivating the land round the various decaying forts, built by the Chinese, scattered about the sea board of the territory. This latter is a laborious task. In 1901 $105.50, and in 1902 $140 were collected.

The result, in my opinion, seems scarcely worth the labour and trouble involved owing to the distance of these forts from the office, and the difficulty of ascertaining in each individual case the amount of land actually under cultivation.

6.—Licenses.

(1.) Licenses for sampans are issued by the police on the island, a charge of 50 cents per mensem being levied.

(2.) On the mainland there are two kinds of licenses issued for fishing boats, viz., Chuan Piao for large junks, $2 per annum, and Chuan Ch'i for smaller boats, 50 cents per annum.

(3.) During the past year a Magisterial Order was issued making it incumbent on all owners of dogs to take out licenses. A charge of $1 is levied. The licenses are issued on the mainland by the Magistrate, and brought in a Revenue of $103. On the island the licenses are issued by the Inspector of Police, and produced a Revenue of $101.

(4.) The Order was undoubtedly of great benefit, as it enables excise officers to get rid of any pariahs or mongrels seen in the streets without a license ticket on their necks. Port Edward was infested with these pests at the time the Order was made, and is still not free from them, though the nuisance is to a great extent abated.

(5.) Last December an Order was issued rendering it unlawful to sell foreign wines or spirits either wholesale or retail without a license. The fee charged is $144 per annum, and this licensing order will probably bring $600 to the Government exchequer this year.

(6.) A Chinese and European House Tax is also collected by the Magistrate's Office under the partial supervision of Sergeant-Major Young of the 1st Chinese Regiment. The Chinese House Tax is based on the number of "Chien" or divisions into which each room in a Chinese house is divided.

(7.) The European House Tax is collected annually, and is payable by the landlords of all houses occupied by foreigners. The tax consists of 5 per cent. of the annual rental of the house, and only brings in a very insignificant revenue at present—about $90 per annum.

(8.) A European Land Tax is also levied on all properties owned by Europeans in the territory. This tax is fixed at half per cent of the assessed value of the land. This tax is collected by the Magistrate in person, and amounts to roughly $250 per annum at present.

REGISTRATION.

(1.) The Magistrate's Office is a Registration Office. Births and deaths of Europeans are registered there. During the past year proper registers have been ordered from Hong-Kong, based on those used in that Colony. No charge is made for registration of births or deaths, but a fee of $1 is charged for a certified extract from the register.

On the island the register is kept by the Inspector of Police.

During the past year 4 deaths and 6 births of Europeans have been registered.

(2.) A register is also kept of all Chinese transfers of land and mortgages, but it is very difficult to induce the people to register their transactions. It is probable that under the Chinese régime large sums of money were extorted by Yamen underlings as fees for this service, and the people are afraid to come to Court for this reason. As a matter of fact, a very small fee is charged, 1 per cent. on the value of land transferred or mortgaged. Only 38 such transfers have been registered during the year, and $53 collected for this service.

(3.) Until a cadastral survey has been made or a Land Court established to inquire into the validity of all titles to land, it does not appear to me of very great advantage to have transfers of land registered, and the people seem to be of the same opinion.

(4.) When early last year it was decided to reduce the 1st Chinese Regiment, the question arose as to what was to be done with disbanded soldiers whose homes are in the territory. It was decided that all disbanded soldiers who either lived in the territory, or for particular reasons wished to stay on there, should be registered at the Magistrate's Office.

(5.) About 80 soldiers have been so registered after questioning by the Magistrate as to their occupation, place of residence, &c., &c. This has involved a considerable amount of time and trouble, and, as will be seen from the references to crime in the territory, many of the ex-soldiers have caused no little vexation to the people.

(6.) A scheme is also on foot for registering all domestic servants, but it is somewhat doubtful whether this scheme will prove a success. I believe it was tried at Hong-Kong with failure, and that attempts have recently been made in the Malay States to introduce some system of registration of Chinese servants, but with what results I do not know.

MISCELLANEOUS.

(1.) The Magistrate at Wei-Hai-Wei does a very considerable amount of what may be called miscellaneous work. The range of this work is wide, to say the least of it, and the ground covered is sometimes of a thorny character.

(2.) The Magistrate assists in framing Ordinances. Towards the end of the year I was called upon to draft an Ordinance for Probate and Administration. This draft has been sent to Shanghai for amendment and revision. I am now engaged upon a less formidable type of Ordinance, viz., a Petty Offences Enactment, which it is hoped will include all former Magisterial Orders dealing with Petty Offences, and also upon an Ordinance for Weights and Measures, the necessity for such an Ordinance having been brought home to the Government during the year under review.

(3.) The Magistrate's Office from time to time issues Proclamations, in Chinese, notifying the people of the wishes of the Government; and in this connection it may be mentioned that, since the arrival of a Civil Commissioner, all the villages of the territory have been provided with large Notice Boards, on which are pasted the Proclamations in question. These notices are most miscellaneous in character. Notices prohibiting gambling, informing the people of the finding of the Court after a case of peculiar interest and importance, notices offering rewards for stolen property, notices prohibiting sampans from obstructing free passage of steamers and boats, notices informing the people of the date when the land tax will be collected and the rate at which it will be collected, Proclamations warning the people against harbouring bad characters or deserters from the Chinese Regiment, notices prohibiting the creaking of wheelbarrows in public roads, and a host of other edicts, proclamations, and notices.

(4.) In connection with the last quoted notice, I may cite a story as showing how quickly the import of a notice spreads and filters through the people. A Chinese conjuror, who had come from a far city to Wei-Hai-Wei where he sojourned a few days, gave a performance at the Magistrate's house a few days after the notice about wheelbarrows had been issued. During the course of his séance, the wizard gave some very lifelike imitations of various phenomena in daily life, including the sound made by the Chinese wheelbarrow. Before giving this imitation, the man of legerdemain put on a face that baffles description, and solemnly announced in Chinese "Fine of one dollar." The roars of laughter that greeted his announcement from the crowd that were flattening their noses at the Magisterial windows, showed how thoroughly the people enjoyed the apt allusion.

The office is also the channel through which the Government calls for and receives tenders, draws up contracts with Chinese, and acts as a translation office for all correspondence sent from the Commissioner of Wei-Hai-Wei to the Governor or other high functionaries of the Province.

The Magistrate corresponds direct with the District Magistrate of Wên Têng and of Yung Ch'êng, also the minor official in the Wei-Hai-Wei city known as the Wei Hai Sz, also with His Britannic Majesty's Consul at Chefoo.

(6.) To pass from the above more or less academical pursuits, the Magistrate occasionally does more practical work in the shape of visiting the territory either officially and expectedly, or unofficially and unexpectedly.

(7.) Early in June, 1902, I rode round the territory with Lieutenant Carr Harris, R.E., the then Acting Colonial Engineer.

The journey was undertaken owing to the information that reached the Government through a Missionary—the late Rev. C. G. Roberts—to the effect that he had observed a great number of the boundary stones marked with a highly offensive Chinese character, "ts'u," "rough" or "dirty" or "vile," in place of the character, "tsu," denoting "leased" in the phrase, "tsu chieh," "leased territory," by which the territory is known officially and popularly among the Chinese. The Government on hearing of this at once gave orders for an examination of all the boundary stones, a total number of 76, and Lieutenant Carr Harris and I made the round of the boundary, visiting each stone, and noting those that were wrongly marked. Only a Chinese scholar can appreciate how much enjoyment such a Chinese "pun" must have caused among the few capable of seeing the joke.

Lieutenant Carr Harris and myself occupied ten days over the journey, and drew up a detailed report for the Commissioner on our return. 30 out of the 76 stones were found to be marked with the objectionable character, and measures were promptly taken to have the proper character re-cut. It was, unfortunately, impossible to punish anyone for the offence, as the contractor, who had had the wrong character cut, had already decamped to Port Arthur, from which stronghold it would be impossible to dislodge him.

We were struck by the very friendly character of the reception given us by the Headmen and people of the many villages we passed through or stopped at, and I think such visits as these do a great deal to cementing good feeling between the people and the Government.

(8.) In the phrase "unofficially and unexpectedly," above made use of, I refer to raids made on gambling dens and other like lairs of iniquity. Raids may be said to have originated, with many other good things, from Captain Johnson of the 1st Chinese Regiment, who acted as Magistrate for me during my leave of absence in Japan in the Autumn.

(9.) I quote from the Acting Magistrate's case book. "On the night of the 16th inst. (16th October, 1902), I raided a large gambling establishment in Yang Ting, consisting of four booths and a shop, capturing 10 gamblers, two ingots, value Taels 19, and a quantity of cash, and confiscating the tents."

(10.) On the night following that raid, Captain Johnson descended suddenly on another village and succeeded in capturing three men, ex-Chinese Regiment soldiers, who had been living in a state of hooliganism.

(11.) Shortly after, Captain Johnson made a raid on another village, and caught five men engaged in gambling.

(12.) Following the excellent example set me by the energy of Captain Johnson, I have personally made two or three similar raids with successful results.

GENERAL.

(1.) In conclusion, the year 1902 may be said to have been marked by many improvements in every direction. A suitable Court has been provided for the Magistrate, telephonic communication has been established between the Police Court on the island and the Magistracy on the mainland, various Ordinances have been introduced, the villages throughout the territory have been provided with notice boards on which Government Orders and Proclamations are pasted, a regular printed Form of Petition has been introduced, the Office Staff of the Court has been improved and renovated, and the system of payment of Revenue into the Bank altered and simplified.

(2.) As regards the people, the Headmen have been given Commissions of Office, and the Government deals as far as possible with the villages through the Headmen. On the whole I do not think the Headmen a very capable and influential body. Over and over again cases have been referred to them to settle and report, and the answer has been that they are unable to report and settle. Nor do they assist the Government, as they should, in reporting cases of gambling, &c., in their respective villages.

(3.) The relations existing between the Government and the people have become more and more friendly, and no stronger proof could be given of this than the fact that, not only the people of Port Edward, but the people of the Chinese walled city, which is not under our jurisdiction, voluntarily presented congratulatory scrolls to His Majesty the King on the occasion of the Coronation.

The people, and especially the villagers, are courteous and pleasant to foreigners, a feature in which they differ markedly from the rude noisy Chinese of the South. They are phlegmatic by disposition, and slow to take offence, and speaking generally, the standard of village morality is fully as high as that which obtains in most parts of the agricultural districts of England. Respect for the traditions of the ancients, and veneration for the words of the aged, parental affection and filial obedience, these are among the most striking traits in the character of the peasants living in this district of Shantung, a Province hallowed and revered through the ages as the birth-place of one of the world's greatest teachers.

R. WALTER,

Secretary to Government.

Port Edward,

Wei-Hai-Wei.

March 1st, 1903.

APPENDIX VI.

MEDICAL TRANSACTIONS FOR THE YEAR 1902, OF THE PORT EDWARD CIVIL HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY, WEI-HAI-WEI.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ACTING COLONIAL SURGEON.

MEDICAL TRANSACTIONS.

The district around Port Edward is naturally a healthy one, and the diseases the people are most subject to are, for the greater part, due to their ignorance and methods of living and feeding.

They have no medical assistance except what they can get from the Colonial Surgeon, and there is absolute ignorance of Western methods of treatment among them. At Port Edward a temporary Civil Hospital and Dispensary has been established, which is much appreciated by the natives who often come considerable distances in order to get relief.

The building is an old Chinese house with thatched roof and gives accommodation for both male and female patients. A more roomy and suitable building is being adapted for the purpose, and will shortly be taken into use. The hospital work has been conducted with the utmost economy, only one Chinese dresser and one coolie being employed. Patients admitted to hospital have relatives or friends to help to nurse them when needed, or special help is obtained.

The people who come for treatment are, as a rule, poor, and very adverse to remain in hospital if it can be avoided.

Serious cases and accidents remain willingly. The larger number come for treatment that does not necessitate their admission.

During the year ending December 31st, 1902, 1,743 cases received relief.

General Diseases.

Smallpox

Only one case, a very mild one, was admitted, and made a good recovery. This has been the only case brought under notice during the last four years.

Vaccination is practised by the Chinese, and I vaccinated any children brought for the purpose.

Scarlet Fever.

One case, imported from Shanghai, where it has been very prevalent and severe in type, both among Europeans and natives. He recovered.

Diphtheria.

Five cases. Two children died at their homes, the parents refusing to allow them to be sent to hospital.

S. C. Fever.

Ten cases, all recovered.

Cholera.

Cholera was epidemic throughout China this year. Sporadic cases occurred in Port Edward and surrounding district. It was difficult to deal with the natives as they tried to hide the fact, and in a house to house visitation in the village, corpses were found and dealt with by immediate burial, disinfection of premises, &c. Fortunately the water supply was not contaminated. The disease was almost certainly introduced by travellers from outside, but its exact source could not be traced. The disease was very fatal to the natives attacked, death generally occurring in five hours after onset in cases that had none but native treatment. In the vicinity of Port Edward 14 deaths occurred.

Dysentery.

The cases are generally of a mild type and speedily amenable to the ipecacuanha treatment. All recovered.

Malarial Fever.

Malarial fever is neither endemic nor epidemic, at least, in Port Edward. The few cases under observation were all contracted in distant places.

As people from distant places are often here and bring malaria with them, and mosquitoes are found, including anopheles, it might be expected that more cases would occur.

However breeding places are rare, and the mosquitoes are not numerous.

Phagedena.

One case, in a girl's foot, rapidly recovered when put under treatment.

Tubercle.

Three cases only, none died.

Leprosy.

Two cases, mild and chronic in character.

Venereal Diseases.

Prevail to some extent, as is usually the case in sea-ports.

Tænia Solium.

The round worm, tænia solium, is exceedingly common, and nearly all Chinese here are the subject of it, vomiting and dyspeptic symptoms are commonly caused by it. Oxgusis Vermicularis, two cases only, and Pendiculus Capitas, four, the latter in children.

Scabies.

Scabies, 53 cases.

Rheumatism.

27 cases, nearly all muscular and of a mild nature.

Diseases of the Nervous System.

Are not common. Neuralgia is the most prevalent.

Diseases of the Eye.

Are common amongst the natives, and usually quite neglected by them. 128 cases were treated.

Diseases of the Ear.

21 cases.

Diseases of Nose.

26 cases.

Diseases of Circulatory System.

5 cases only.

Diseases of Respiratory System.

75 cases, mostly of a mild nature. One case of Phthisis in an old man, died in hospital.

Diseases of the Digestive System.

Are the most common among the people, no doubt largely due to their diet. Dyspepsia, in various forms, is the most frequent complaint met with.

Jaundice.

Was much less frequent this year, only seven cases, and no epidemic jaundice was heard of.

Diseases of the Skin.

Are very common, and gave 263 cases for treatment. Boils are extremely prevalent in the autumn.

Burns.

One case, in which more than three-fourths of the body surface was involvod, due to an accident in letting off a large firework, was fatal, and died in hospital.

Wounds.

84 cases, mostly accidental. Owing to building operations going on, many cases of accidents occurred. 12 men were injured by the falling of a scaffold. One case of multiple wound of intestines by a stab was brought in from the native city and died in hospital in spite of abdominal section and suturing of no less than six wounds of small intestine, one involving nearly the whole circumference of the gut.

Fracture.

Seven cases, all made a good recovery.

Multiple Injury.

Three cases died. One was a case of murder for robbery, the base of the skull was fractured, also both bones of the forearm with other injuries. Two men were killed by being crushed under rocks and earth.

Poisons.

The natural proclivity of the Chinese for committing suicide on the slightest provocation is well known. Of 15 cases of poisoning that came under notice, 13 were cases of suicide; of these, 10 were cases of phosphorus poisoning.

This is now the favourite method in use, being readily and so cheaply obtainable by the poorest. They buy small boxes of cheap matches made in Japan, and removing the heads, mix them up in a little water or tea and drink off the potion. Often, those living near the Port tell their relatives shortly after the deed, and if they call the Surgeon their lives are saved, but in other cases, especially if living some distance off, they do not send word for a day or two afterwards, in which case a fatal result is the rule. Death in these cases usually occurs in about a week.

One case of accidental poisoning recovered, and three of opium.

One old chronic opium eater died in hospital.

Operations.

120 operations were performed. The large majority of these were of a minor character.

One impacted calculus was removed from the urethra, and one from between the scrotum and groin, whence it had apparently ulcerated through from the urethra.

One case of abdominal section for extensive wounds of intestines died.

Birth and Death Rates.

At present there is no means of ascertaining exactly the birth and death rate of the native population.

From observation there can be little doubt that the birth rate exceeds that of the deaths.

Among the European population there was one death from Bright's disease, one after operation in which a kidney was removed, one infant from tubercular meningitis, and one case of premature birth, the infant dying from broncho-pneumonia.

Two accidental deaths from drowning occurred.

Amongst the Japanese, one death from cholera and one from heart disease.

Public Health.

The public health of the Colony has been very good, and no epidemic has to be recorded.

Plague.

No case of plague occurred.

Quarantine was enforced this year against vessels from infected ports with cholera or plague.

A vessel arrived with a case of cholera on board.

As this disease was everywhere prevalent during the summer, it was fortunate that this Dependency escaped with so few cases.

Sanitary Condition.

The general sanitary condition of Liu Kung Tao and Port Edward is always being improved.

Public latrines are provided and kept clean and in good order.

Cemented surface drains are being provided.

Slaughter houses have been built, also a market place at Port Edward.

Sanitary regulations are enforced, and the general cleanliness of the place is decidedly good.

The absence of enteric fever, so common in the East, is a favourable and marked feature in the Dependency.

Roads are being put in good order and improved.

As funds are available, some of the poorest and most unsanitary native dwellings in the port will be removed and better dwellings erected.

There is a small prison on Liu Kung Island, and also one at Port Edward.

As a seaside resort during the hot summer months for residents in Hong-Kong, Shanghai, and other places, Wei-Hai-Wei easily takes the first place.

In addition to the salubrity of the climate there is safe and most excellent bathing to be enjoyed from the splendid sands.

Sailing and rowing are to be found in the harbour with safety.

The adjacent hills offer picturesque walks, and there are any amount of excellent sites all around the harbour for houses.

There is a commodious first class hotel in Port Edward with its own dairy, &c.

Sulphur Spring.

There is a natural sulphur spring, with baths, in a central position on Narcissus Bay. These are used largely by the Japanese.

It is proposed to improve the bathing facilities, and, no doubt, more use will be made of them by Europeans in future.

They are particularly useful for rheumatism, dyspepsia, cutaneous complaints, and as a general restorative. The year 1902 has, generally, been an unhealthy one throughout the ports of China.

The exemption from any epidemic and the absence of malarial fever are features of the place, of which the cleanliness is remarked on by visitors from other parts of China.

W. H. Starr,
Major, R.A.M.C.,
Acting Colonial Surgeon.

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REPORT FOR 1903.

(For Report for 1902, *see* No. 388.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
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No. 419.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1902, *see* No. 388).

COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to MR. LYTTELTON.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
18th April, 1904.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the Territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1903.

I have, &c.,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

AREA AND POPULATION.

It is surprising to find how supremely ignorant most people are regarding the population and area of Weihaiwei. It is not an uncommon belief that with the island of Liu Kung begins and ends British authority in this territory, and not a few visitors, generally well informed in other respects, have not disguised their astonishment when, viewing from an eminence a wide extent of country on the mainland, they realise for the first time that the leased area, which cover 285 square miles, is not so circumscribed as they had imagined. People who are ignorant of the leased territory are not likely even to know of the existence of the British sphere of influence adjoining it, which lies east of the meridian 121° 40′, and covers an area of 1,500 square miles.

The number of the population also surprises most people, which is not unnatural when it is remembered what a Liliput they believe Weihaiwei to be. It is true that no proper census has been taken since the territory came under British rule, but careful inquiries made render it almost certain that the population amounts to about 150,000, including that resident on the island, which is not more than 2,000.

STAFF.

The European staff entrusted with the administration of the affairs of the 150,000 inhabitants of this territory consists of—

The Commissioner,
The Secretary to Government and Magistrate,
The Financial Assistant,
Three Inspectors of Police,
Two Medical Officers,
One Civil Engineer,
One Foreman of Works,
Two Corporals, and
Two Sappers Royal Engineers,

fourteen in all, whose annual salaries and allowances amount to $40,278, or about £3,860.

They are assisted by a native staff, whose total annual emoluments amount to $7,100, or £680.

The total annual expenditure on account of the staff is $47,378, or £4,540.

During the year the staff has been strengthened by the appointment of Mr. Ching as Chief Clerk and Financial Assistant;

of Inspectors Purdon and Young to the Police; of Dr. Hickin to the Medical Department.

Major Starr, R.A.M.C., having returned to England, his duties as Civil Medical Officer have been discharged by Major Black, R.A.M.C.

Mr. Taylor, Civil Engineer attached to the Naval Depôt, has acted as adviser on public works generally, and has superintended the works carried out on the island.

Staff-Sergeant Griffin, R.E., Foreman of Works, with the assistance of two corporals and two sappers, has been responsible for the works carried out on the mainland.

Mr. Walter, Secretary to Government, whose report will be found in Appendix I., has had a great variety of duties to perform, all of which he has carried out in a very efficient manner.

The fact that it has been found possible to govern 150,000 natives with the small staff at present in existence here is a striking testimony to the commonly accepted belief that the Chinese are an easily governed race.

There is in China a saying that the art of government is to do nothing. While not attempting to follow such a short cut to successful government as that recommended in this saying, this Government has taken as its maxim *Pas trop gouverner*, avoiding meddlesome interference with Chinese affairs, which invariably breeds trouble, creates friction, and ultimately leads to the creation of a large and expensive staff.

ADVISORY COUNCIL.

It has not been found necessary to hold regular meetings of the Advisory Council, the members of which are—

Mr. Duncan Clark, of the firm of Messrs. D. Clark & Co.,
Mr. E. E. Clark, of the firm of Messrs. Lavers & Clark,
Mr. F. Larkins, of the firm of Messrs. Cornabe Eckford & Company.

From time to time the members of the Council have been consulted regarding various matters on the island, and their advice has been found useful.

FINANCES.

GRANT-IN-AID.

The following is a list of the grants-in-aid from Imperial funds since the dependency came under the Colonial Office:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1901–2	11,250
1902–3	12,000
1903–4	9,000
1904–5	6,000

From the above figures it will be seen that in a period of four years the grant-in-aid has been reduced by fifty per cent.

The balance in the bank to the credit of this Government on the 31st March last amounted to $94,511.45. Deducting outstanding cheques, amounting to $4,766.71, and adding $62.40, revenue paid in and not shown in the bank account, there remains a credit balance of $89,807.14 to be carried forward to the year 1904-5. These figures do not include the Crown Agents accounts after January, as they have not yet been received, but, allowance having been made for them, it is safe to state that there will be a balance of $89,000 to carry forward to 1904-5. The savings estimated in the 1904-5 estimates are $70,371, so that actual savings show an increase of $20,000, as compared with the estimate.[*]

EXPENDITURE.

The estimated expenditure for 1903-4 was £16,000, or say $160,000; the actual expenditure amounted to $166,430.46. The increase of $6,430 may be accounted for by the purchase and laying of the telegraph cable between Port Edward and the island. In Appendix II. will be found a summary of expenditure and details of the various items of expenditure.

REVENUE.

Returns of the estimated and actual revenue for 1903-4 and the amount collected under each item are given in Appendix II. An examination of these returns shows that the estimated revenue for the year was $31,715, whereas the actual revenue collected amounted to $58,364, an increase of $26,649.

---

[*] It should be mentioned, however, that only one instalment of £500 was paid during the year for the launch being built in Hong Kong for this Government, the total cost of which will be £1,500. A sum of £1,000, or say $11,000, is, therefore, still due, so that the increase on actual savings over the estimate will be about $9,000.

The chief increases are as follows:—

	$
Licences	4,074
Fines	1,150
Land Transfer Fees	2,127
Land Tax	9,000
Road Tax	7,461
Interest	2,650

In the Annual Report for last year it was pointed out that the Land Tax formerly amounted to $6,480, the amount estimated for 1903-4, but that inquiry had revealed that the tax had not been collected in accordance with Chinese custom. In the Shantung Province, for the purposes of the Land Tax, the value of the silver tael, in copper cash, is fixed at a rate which is more than double the market rate. The Land Tax has been collected at that rate, which has yielded an increase of $9,000.

As regards the Road Tax, it had formerly been the practice for the villagers to contribute labour for the repair of roads, but this *corvée* did not work satisfactorily, and tended to produce discontent among the villagers, especially as it bore more hardly on the poor than on those who are better off. Careful inquiries were made, and it was ascertained that the villagers instead of working on the roads would prefer to pay a contribution towards their construction and maintenance, and suggested that the Land Tax should be made the basis of the contribution. This suggestion has been adopted. The yearly Land Tax amounts to about $14,000, but half that amount only was collected last year as a Road Tax, as the villagers had done some work on the roads.

When it is remembered that the total revenue of this dependency in 1901-2 amounted to $22,000 only, the revenue collected last year, $58,364, may be regarded as satisfactory.

PUBLIC WORKS.

In Appendix No. III. will be found the report of Mr. Guilland Taylor, C.E., on the works carried out on the island, and the report of Staff Sergeant Griffin, R.E., on the works carried out on the mainland. Both these officers and those who have worked under them have discharged their duties in a satisfactory manner.

The expenditure on account of the works on the island amounted to $15,355 and on the mainland to $59,379.34, making a total expenditure of $74,734.34, as compared with $50,676.93 in 1901-2 and $55,286.12 in 1902-3.

Great attention has been devoted to the construction and maintenance of roads. On the island all the roads have been put in good order, and the chief thoroughfare, Seymour Street, has been improved both in alignment and width, at a cost of $9,240. The appearance of the island has been much improved by constructing a new sea wall along the shore in front of Seymour Street, and laying out the area behind the sea wall, at a cost of $3,950.

On the mainland the main road from Half Moon Bay to Flagstaff Point, a distance of five miles, has been metalled and carefully constructed at a cost of $18,280. Two new streets have been run through Port Edward, which have much improved its appearance.

The roads in the outlying districts of the mainland have been maintained in a good state of repair, but they will never be really satisfactory until properly metalled and bridged. As a start in this direction, a contract has been entered into to metal and bridge the coast road from the 5th to the 8th milestone, whilst steps are also being taken to widen that road in certain parts, to re-erect and add extra spans to bridges that have fallen down, and to plant willow trees at suitable places along the side of this road.

The coast and Chefoo Roads were originally made during comparatively dry years, but the rainfall of the last two years shows that the bridges originally constructed were not sufficient to cope with the volume of water that rushes down from the hills in the rainy season.

The roads constructed last year have not suffered much from the heavy rains, and the road from Half Moon Bay to Flagstaff shows little sign of damage.

Quarters on the Bund have been erected for the Financial Assistant, at a cost of about $4,000, as the house originally built for that officer is now occupied by the Secretary to Government. As was stated in last year's report, steps were being taken to remove insanitary buildings, and to encourage the erection of buildings of a better class. In pursuance of this policy, a number of insanitary houses in Port Edward have been pulled down and rebuilt by the owners, who were duly compensated. Arrangements are now in progress for removing other insanitary buildings. A site on the Bund, adjoining that in which the new quarters for the Financial Assistant have been built, has been resumed, for the purpose of erecting this year quarters for an Inspector of Police and later on a court and police station.

POLICE.

The Police Force at present consists of three inspectors, one native sergeant, six native constables, and five detectives.

Inspector Whittaker, with the assistance of one sergeant and six native constables, is responsible for the policing of the island.

Inspector Young is responsible for the good order of Port Edward.

Inspector Purdon, assisted by five detectives, acts as Intelligence Officer, and serves as a link between the central government and the village headmen, who are held responsible for the maintenance of peace and good order in the 330 villages dotted throughout the territory.

Inspector Whittaker has discharged his duties efficiently. The permanent population of the island is estimated at 2,191, all Chinese, except 129 Europeans, and there have been only 18 cases of theft and 67 cases of breach of municipal regulations brought to the notice of the police.

During last year most of His Majesty's ships on the China station visited Weihaiwei, as may be seen on reference to the list in Appendix IV., kindly furnished to me by Commander Yorke, Naval Executive Officer and King's Harbour Master, and many were here at the same time during the summer. The police returns do not reveal a single case in which a bluejacket was concerned. This shows how excellent their behaviour has been, which is all the more commendable when it is remembered that there are at present no attractions beyond the recreation ground and canteen for the bluejacket on the island, to which his movements on shore are confined, though he has the advantage in summer of the good climate of Weihaiwei.

Inspector Young has discharged his duties at Port Edward satisfactorily, and it is in a great measure due to his exertions that the town is maintained in such a clean and sanitary condition.

Inspector Purdon has been of great assistance, not only in bringing criminals to justice, but also in keeping the Government in touch with the various villages. Through his exertions the headman system has continued to work smoothly, and this fact, combined with the satisfaction produced in the minds of the villagers by the manner in which Mr. Walter, in his capacity as District Magistrate, deals with the variety of cases brought before him, has created among the people a firm conviction that under the British flag equal justice is meted out to all alike whether rich or poor.

CRIME.

The inhabitants of the territory have maintained their reputation as a law-abiding people. The cases in which natives of Weihaiwei have been concerned have not been numerous, and have been mostly confined to offences of a trivial nature, such as assault, petty larceny, and receiving stolen goods. This is a good record when it is remembered the population amounts to about 150,000. The offences committed by persons not belonging to the territory have been of a more serious nature. For some time the peace of the villagers was disturbed by a gang, which "held up" several villages, their depredations creating a good deal of alarm among the inhabitants. Two of the ringleaders have been arrested, and are now undergoing a sentence of imprisonment with hard labour. Many of the villages have applied for permission to keep arms to protect their villages from robbers, and steps have been taken to meet their wishes, and to teach those entrusted with arms their proper use. It is hoped that by degrees those authorised to carry arms in the villages scattered throughout the territory may be organised into a voluntary force, ready to co-operate when necessary with the regular police.

Two pirates who had committed a piracy in Chinese waters were arrested, and a *primâ facie* case having been established against them, they were, on the application of the Chinese authorities, handed over to them.

Compensation was secured in two cases in which junks belonging to Weihaiwei were concerned. One case occurred in Corea; the other in the province of Kiangnan.

Inspector Purdon and the detectives deserve great praise for the manner in which they have succeeded in bringing offenders to justice. The clever capture of the thief in the hotel robbery, and the tracing of the stolen money, which was discovered in several places, as Mr. Walter has described in his report (Appendix I.), reflects special credit on Inspector Purdon, who also arrested the two ringleaders in the gang roberies.

This territory has been so accustomed to immunity from serious crime that when cases do unfortunately occur, there are arm-chair critics who declaim against the absence of a large police force, which they, having a strong belief in numbers, and no experience of the administration of Chinese, seem to think would put an end to all crime. These critics appear to forget that where there are large police forces crime still continues, and, so long as human nature remains as it is, it seems Utopian to hope that crime can in any place be enitrely prevented. In the present circumstances of this dependency, where crime is comparatively rare, the imposition of a heavy tax in order to raise funds to defray the cost of a large police force does not seem to be justifiable. But should crime increase and such a tax become necessary, it is gratifying to know that the critics of the present arrangements, to judge from their criticisms, will be willing to give their support to such a tax.

PRISONS.

As pointed out last year, there are two prisons in the dependency—one on the mainland and one on the island.

The former is now used for detaining prisoners awaiting trial and for prisoners sentenced to a few days' imprisonment.

The structural alterations in the prison on the island referred to in last year's report have been completed. Six new cells have been added, and the prison yard has been enlarged and surrounded by a high wall. Police quarters have also been built within the prison compound, which now also includes the quarters of the inspector who discharges the duties of superintendent of the gaol.

A Prison Ordinance has been approved and proclaimed, and regulations have been made under it. Suitable prison clothing has been provided for prisoners.

140 prisoners passed through the prison on the mainland during the year, 67 of whom were sent to the prison on the island.

A medical officer visits the gaol daily, and furnishes weekly reports. The health of the prisoners during the year has been excellent.

FIRE BRIGADE.

There has been only one fire, of a slight nature, this year, which occurred on the mainland, and which was extinguished by the Chinese Regiment.

The Fire Brigade on the island is now under the direction of the inspector of police stationed there, Mr. Matheson having resigned his position as superintendent. The thanks of this Government are due to him for having served in that capacity voluntarily.

EDUCATION.

The Weihaiwei School, a private enterprise, the headmaster of which is Mr. Beer, and in which are educated the sons of Europeans, moved into its new buildings at the end of last year. The school has been built to accommodate 40 pupils, and occupies an excellent situation, commanding a fine view of the harbour. The fact that there is no healthier place than Weihaiwei in the Far East ought to attract pupils to the Weihaiwei School.

The work of the Anglo-Chinese School at Port Edward is now carried on by the Rev. Mr. Griffith, who succeeded the Rev. Mr. Brown. The pupils have made rapid progress in their English studies, and it is gratifying to know that the Government scholars are among those pupils whose work has been most satisfactory.

The school on the island of Liu Kung, under the Rev. Mr. Buxbaum, reopened last year with an increase in the number of scholars, there being about forty names on the register. The school was examined at the end of the year, and the examiners expressed themselves well satisfied with the results of the examination.

No Government school has as yet been established. It has been thought better to defer the establishment of Government schools until natives of the territory can be found sufficiently well acquainted with English to be able to teach that language.

The native schools throughout the villages in the territory were about the same in number as during 1902.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS.

In Appendix VI. are given the meteorological observations for 1903, recorded by Major Black, R.A.M.C.

The climate during 1903 justified its description as a "white man's climate."

Rain or snow fell on 72 days, as compared with 73 days in 1902, the total rainfall being 35·47 inches, as compared with 28·84 last year. This is the record rainfall during the last five years. April, July, August, and September were the wettest months, the rainfall being:—

April	3·57 inches
July	6·18 "
August	14·18 "
September	3·49 "

June, July, August and September were the warmest months, the mean of all the highest temperatures in each of those months being:—

June	78°
July	80°
August	81°
September	77°

The highest temperature in any one month was 92° in July, the lowest in the same month being 61°.

January, February, March, and December were the coldest months, the lowest temperature reached being 17° in the month of January.

The winter of last year was severer than that of 1902 and there was considerably more frost and snow, the latter having fallen on 18 days.

MEDICAL AND SANITARY.

The medical staff has been increased by the appointment of Dr. Hickin as Medical Officer, who resides on the island of Liu Kung, and is responsible for its medical requirements, superintends its sanitation, carries out the medical inspection of vessels under the Quarantine Ordinance, and acts as medical officer of the gaol on the island.

The civil medical work on the mainland is under the charge of Major Black, R.A.M.C., who succeeded Major Starr, R.A.M.C., on the expiry of the latter's period of service in this dependency.

The reports of Major Black and Dr. Hickin, with the usual returns attached, will be found in Appendix VII.

A perusal of these reports shows that the general health of Weihaiwei during 1903 has been excellent, and that whilst there was an epidemic of measles at Chefoo, 60 miles from here, and an epidemic of dengue and cholera at Shanghai, Weihaiwei did not itself suffer from any of those diseases, though there were two imported cases of dengue. There were no cases of small-pox, enteric or malaria, except an imported case of the last-mentioned disease, which is so much dreaded by Europeans in the Far East.

The total number of attendances at the Civil Hospital for Chinese on the mainland was 3,698, as compared with 1,743 during last year. This large increase in the number of cases treated shows that the natives are beginning to realise the benefits of Western treatment, and it is especially worthy of remark that no fewer than 325 women availed themselves of the hospital.

Medical work on the mainland has been to some extent handicapped by the hospital having been removed twice during the year, but the present building in which it is located is in every way more suitable than the building formerly utilised and it is hoped that it may be sufficient for local requirements for some time to come. If the work of the hospital increases at its present rate, it will be ultimately necessary to build a hospital.

A Government dispensary and hospital for Chinese have been established on the island, under the superintendence of Dr. Hickin, assisted by a Chinese doctor trained in Western methods. As pointed out in last year's report, there was a similar institution under the supervision of the Rev. Mr. Buxbaum, but this has now been closed. As the Government Hospital was not opened until June last, statistics for the whole year are not available, but 397 cases have been treated during the latter half of the year. The most striking features of the work in the Island Hospital are, as pointed out by Dr. Hickin, the extremely trivial character of the diseases treated, and the absence of malaria, phthisis, cancer and epidemic diseases.

It would be very difficult, if not impossible, under present circumstances to enforce compulsory vaccination, and, as small-pox seems to be very rare here—there has been no case reported except imported cases since my arrival in 1902—it seems sufficient at present to encourage the inhabitants by leaflets and notices to avail themselves of the free vaccination carried out at the hospitals on the mainland and island.

Quarantine was imposed during the summer months on account of the existence of epidemics in neighbouring ports. Eighty-two steamers were examined. H.M.S. "Ocean" was placed in quarantine on arrival from Hong Kong, as some of her men had been landed in that colony suffering from a disease stated to be plague, and three of her crew were sick when the vessel reached this port. Whilst the ship was in quarantine another man was taken ill, and died in thirty-six hours. Material for culture and inoculation tests in this case were sent to Shanghai for examination, and Dr. Moore, the Health Officer of that port, to whom the thanks of this Government are due, reported the examination had shown the disease to be ordinary pneumonia. In the meantime, all the officers and crew of H.M.S. "Ocean" removed from the ship and went into camp on Observation Island whilst the vessel was being disinfected. Visitors to the camp, which was appropriately named H.M.S. "Ocean" were much struck by the ready way in which a bleak island had been converted by Captain Foote, his officers, and men into a man-of-war on shore, and by the cheerful manner in which the bluejackets and marines had accommodated themselves to their somewhat novel position and unusual surroundings. As the "Ocean Magazine" stated at the time, "On duty, but happy," expressed the prevailing sentiment throughout the temporary settlement.

The general sanitary condition of the dependency is being improved. In the opinion of Dr. Hickin, who has resided for many years in the Far East, it is better than that of any other seaside place in China. A Public Health Ordinance has been introduced, and regulations under it have been made. Insanitary houses have been removed, and more suitable buildings erected in their place. Concreted surface drains have been extended, and streets have been improved. House-to-house visitations are made regularly to secure cleanliness, and a close supervision is exercised over dairies and laundries which are now licensed. All drains are open, and are kept free from solid refuse. The favourable criticism of residents and visitors on the cleanliness of Port Edward and the island indicates that those responsible for the sanitary work of this dependency have discharged their duties in an efficient manner.

No separate hospital for European members of the civil community has been erected, the Admiralty having consented to the Naval Hospital on the island being used for that purpose, as pointed out in last year's report. It is understood that the present Naval Hospital, being regarded as insufficient for the requirements of the Navy, it has been decided to erect a new hospital at an estimated cost of £45,000, with 48 beds and separate buildings for infectious diseases (18 beds), and small-pox cases (5 beds). It is hoped that European residents at Weihaiwei will be allowed to use the new hospital, thus rendering unnecessary the expenditure required for a separate civil hospital for Europeans, until the increase in the European population warrants such an outlay.

SULPHUR BATHS.

As pointed out in last year's report, sulphur springs, containing substances of a high remedial value, according to the Government Analyst of Hong Kong, exist near Port Edward. They were used by the Japanese during their occupation of Weihaiwei, but the baths erected by them had fallen into decay. Arrangements were accordingly made to have new and improved baths constructed in the Japanese style, and it was anticipated they would be ready for use last year. Owing, however, to a variety of causes, the bath-houses are only just nearing completion, and will not be opened to the public till the 1st of May next. A fresh spring near the baths has been discovered, at a depth of 125 feet, from which the water issues scaldingly hot. Several Europeans have tried the baths, and all speak highly of them and the excellent arrangements made for the comfort of visitors. The baths are modelled on those so popular in Japan, the material having been imported from that country, and Japanese carpenters and workmen having been specially engaged to carry out the work. The baths will be managed by the Japanese gentleman who has erected them, with the aid of a Government subsidy. It seems fairly certain that the sulphur baths will be popular with residents and visitors.

LIGHTHOUSES.

The two lighthouses in the territory have been maintained in a satisfactory condition, as will be seen on reference to the report of Engineer Lieutenant Wall, R.N. (Appendix VIII.), who has acted as Inspector of Lighthouses.

LEGISLATION

The following Ordinances, after having been approved, have been duly proclaimed:—

No. 1 of 1903.—The Weihaiwei Concession Ordinance dealing with prospecting and mining.
No. 2 of 1903.—The Quarantine Ordinance.
No. 3 of 1903.—The Public Health and Buildings Ordinance.
No. 4 of 1903.—The Prisons Ordinance.
No. 5 of 1903.—The Police Force Ordinance.
No. 6 of 1903.—The Holidays Ordinance.
No. 7 of 1903.—The Registration Ordinance.
No. 8 of 1903.—The Flogging Regulation Ordinance.
No. 9 of 1903.—The Marriage Ordinance.

The Ordinance dealing with Probate, drafted by Mr. Bourne, Judge of the Supreme Court, Shanghai, referred to in the Annual Report for 1902, has been approved, and will be proclaimed shortly.

Inconvenience has been felt owing to the want of a Civil and Penal Code. The question of the introduction of such codes is under consideration.

AGRICULTURE AND AFFORESTATION.

Last year Mr. Dunn, the Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department, Hong Kong, visited Weihaiwei, to inquire into and report on its agricultural and afforestation possibilities. The report furnished by him as the result of his inquiry will be found in Appendix IX.

Mr. Dunn is of opinion that Weihaiwei would make an excellent centre for the cultivation of silk, the growing of fruit, the establishment of vineyards, and the establishment of a trade in beancake and white wax.

As is well known, the neighbouring Treaty Port of Chefoo enjoys a large trade in silk, fruit, and beancake, and now that an expert of Mr. Dunn's experience has pronounced Weihaiwei admirably suited, both as regards soil and other necessary conditions, for establishing similar industries here, it is hoped that with a view to their development capitalists may be encouraged to invest capital in this dependency. The fact that Weihaiwei is a duty-free port gives it an advantage which ought to act as an additional inducement.

The question of the preservation and the planting of trees is engaging the attention of this Government. There can be no doubt that the surroundings of Weihaiwei would be much improved by afforestation.

TRADE.

The question of the status of Weihaiwei was raised last year by the action of the Chinese Customs authorities at Shanghai. It is not easy to understand how there could have been any misapprehension regarding the status of this port, which from the date of the Weihaiwei Convention had always been treated as a foreign port. However, this question, which is one of great importance to the future commercial welfare of this dependency, was settled through the representations of His Majesty's Minister at Peking.

It was decided that Weihaiwei is to receive the same treatment as a foreign port, of which Hong Kong is the best known example in the Far East. The result of this decision is that no duties will be charged on merchandise in transit to Weihaiwei, and drawbacks will be allowed on foreign goods re-exported thither which have paid import duty, or on native goods which have paid coast trade duty at a Chinese port.

A report on the trade of Weihaiwei during 1903, which has been kindly drawn up Mr. E. Clark, of the firm of Messrs. Lavers and Clark, will be found in Appendix X.

As Mr. Clark points out, the principal features of interest during the past year are the increased number of steamers that passed through the port, the increase in exports of native produce, and the import of kerosene oil and Japanese cotton yarn, and the establishment of a regular mail service.

During the year 242 steamers, exclusive of Admiralty colliers, Government transports, and two small steamers running between Chefoo and Weihaiwei, entered this port, representing a tonnage of 244,940 tons. This is an increase of 66 per cent. over the previous year, during which 146 steamers, representing a tonnage of 151,809 tons, entered this port.

The increase in exports and imports is satisfactory, but there is still much room for improvement. There will be no great development until capital is attracted to Weihaiwei. It is true that silk is made, and that the manufacture of beancake has been commenced on a small scale, but what is desirable is that the silk, beancake, and other industries should be started on a large scale, with sufficient capital to enable these products to hold their own in the market against those of other ports.

There can be no doubt that as regards trade there are many possibilities at Weihaiwei. What is wanted is capital to convert these possibilities into actualities, and it is hoped that when affairs in the Far East become more settled the chief requisite, capital, will be invested in commercial enterprises here.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The chief event during last year in connection with postal arrangements was the opening of the Siberian route to the regular transmission of mails. This was a great boon to Weihaiwei, as it enabled residents to receive letters despatched from home in about three weeks, instead of five, the time required for a letter to reach here by the usual route, and to send letters home at the penny rate of postage.

The Siberian route would be of still greater benefit to Weihaiwei if there was direct communication between Weihaiwei and Port Arthur, by arranging for the mail steamers running between that port and Shanghai to call here, and it is hoped that when that route is again open to public traffic such communication may be effected.

The Postmaster-General of Hong Kong, Mr. L. A. M. Johnston, paid a visit to Weihaiwei last year, with a view to inquiring and reporting on its postal arrangements. A copy of his report is given in Appendix XI.

Hitherto, in addition to a branch of the Hong Kong Post Office, there has been in this dependency a branch of the Chinese Imperial Post Office, with offices on the island and at Port Edward. Weihaiwei has never yet established an independent post office of its own.

As Mr. Johnston points out, it seems anomalous that a foreign post office should function in a British dependency, and he recommends that the branch of the Chinese Imperial Post Office should be closed. His recommendations will be carried out, and a branch of the Hong Kong Post Office will be opened at Port Edward, as well as on the island. When it is seen how the arrangement works in practice, the consideration of an independent postal administration for Weihaiwei will be considered.

In the annual report for 1902 the hope was expressed that a regular mail service to and from Shanghai would be established. Such a service is now in existence.

A mail contract was entered into last year with the China Navigation Company, under which that company, for a monthly subsidy of $1,000, undertakes to run every seven days at least one steamer from Shanghai for Weihaiwei and from Weihaiwei to Shanghai—the steamer from Shanghai to leave within 48 hours after the arrival of the English and French mails. This contract has worked satisfactorily, most of the mails reaching here from London in from 34 to 38 days, and is certainly a great improvement on the former contract. Under that contract, which cost only a little less than the present one, a small steamer was subsidised to carry mails between Weihaiwei and Chefoo, so that anyone wishing to travel to that port had as a rule to approach it by way of Chefoo. Under present arrangements Weihaiwei can be reached directly from Shanghai at least once a week, which is a great convenience and tends to aid the development of the dependency.

MINING.

Thirty-four prospecting licences were issued during the year. The Weihaiwei Gold Mining Company, Limited, has been working steadily during the last twelve months.

At the first anuual meeting the Chairman informed the shareholders that a mill of twenty stamps, provided with power for an additional twenty stamps, had been ordered, and stated that "the ore which the company has in sight is worth 5 dwts. to the ton. Allowing the cost of mining and milling to be 2 dwts. per ton, the company will have a resulting profit of about $150,000 for a year of 300 days, working from 20 stamps."

GENERAL.

QUESTION OF SMUGGLING.

During the summer of last year Mr. Oliver, of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, was deputed by the Governor of Shantung to visit Weihaiwei, in order to discuss the question of alleged smuggling from British into Chinese territory. As there was nothing to show that smuggling was being carried on and as the extent of the trade here tends to show that, even if smuggling does exist, it must be on a very small scale, it was suggested to Mr. Oliver that the Government of China should take steps to ascertain definitely the true state of affairs. At the same time, this Government undertook to facilitate in every way any investigation which the Government of China might institute, as it has naturally no desire that the legitimate revenue of China should suffer in any way from smuggling from this territory.

VISIT TO THE GOVERNORS OF SHANTUNG AND KIAOCHOU.

In the spring of last year I made a journey in the province of Shantung, accompanied by Captain Barnes, of the Chinese Regiment. We visited His Excellency Governor Chou Fu at Chinan, the capital of the Province, and afterwards journeyed through the Province to Kiaochou, the German Colony, situated in the south, where we had the pleasure of meeting Governor Truppel and the leading officials and residents.

The province of Shantung is full of historical interest. In it were born the two great Sages of China, Confucius and Mencius, by the descendants of whom, in the 76th and 74th generations, we were cordially entertained. A report of our journey through the province and of our visit to Kiaochau has already been furnished, so it is not proposed to give a detailed account here, but I desire to avail myself of this opportunity to express once more, on behalf of myself and my party, our appreciation of the unvarying kindness and hospitality we received from Governor Chou Fu and all the officials we met.

At Kiaochou we were treated most hospitably by Governor Truppel, who is to be congratulated on the progress of the colony under his administration. He and the leading officials and residents made our visit a most pleasant one, by according to us a welcome and extending to us a hospitality which could not be exceeded in kindness and cordiality.

NORTH CHINA MEDAL GRANTED TO WEIHAIWEI VOLUNTEERS.

During the troubles in North China in 1900 a volunteer force was formed at Weihaiwei, but no medal had been awarded to the volunteers who constituted it. A representation was made to the War Office, through the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with the result that it was decided to award medals to the Weihaiwei Volunteers, a list of whom is given in Appendix XIII.

FERRY SERVICE.

The communication between the island and mainland has been improved by the subsidising of a ferry launch. Formerly this community was dependent on the courtesy of the military authorities, who used to run a launch two or three times a day, but when it was withdrawn it was found necessary to make arrangements for a regular service, available to the general public.

TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

Communication between the island and mainland has also been improved by the laying of a telegraph cable to Port Edward. The headquarters of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company being on the island, it was found impossible to despatch a telegram without having it conveyed to the island. This inconvenience has been remedied by the laying of a cable to the mainland, and by the establishment of a branch office of the Telegraph Company at Port Edward, from which telegrams can be sent.

ACCOUNTS.

At the beginning of the year Mr. Nicolle, the Local Auditor of Hong Kong, visited this territory. The accounts had fallen into arrear, and were not kept in accordance with the regulations generally adopted in the Eastern Crown Colonies. It was, therefore, deemed advisable to have the keeping of accounts and the collection of revenue placed upon a proper footing. After a careful examination Mr. Nicolle made definite recommendations, all of which have been adopted. As a result, the accounts are now properly kept, and there are no arrears. Mr. Ching, the Chief Clerk and Financial Assistant, deserves great credit for having so quickly overtaken former arrears, while at the same time having kept the current work up to date.

CONCLUSION.

To sum up, there has been satisfactory progress during the year 1903. The administrative staff, small though it be, has proved itself capable of efficiently dealing with the affairs of the territory. Regular mail communication with Shanghai has been established. Roads have been improved. The natives have proved themselves orderly and well behaved, the amount of crime in proportion to the population having been very small. The revenue, which was double that collected last year, and three times as large as that collected in 1901, is now sufficient to cover the cost of the administrative staff. The grant-in-aid from Imperial funds has in three years been reduced from £12,000 to £6,000. Trade, though still in its infancy, has increased, and there is every sign that the possibilities of this dependency as a centre of trade are being gradually recognised, and that capital will be attracted to its shores. Its popularity as a health resort is increasing as the excellence of its climate becomes more generally known.

Weihaiwei has, and will no doubt continue to have, many difficulties against which to contend, but there seems to be no reason why, by the exercise of patience and perseverance, and by the aid of that spirit of enterprise, which is still alive in the British race, those difficulties should not be overcome. The dependency may not progress by leaps and bounds, but it does not appear too sanguine to hope that it will ultimately prove itself a possession worthy of the Empire to which it belongs.

J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Commissioner.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
16 April, 1904.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

I. Report of Secretary to Government.

II. Financial Returns.

III. °Report of Mr. Taylor. Report of Sergeant Griffin.

IV. °List of Men-of-War that visited Weihaiwei during 1903.

V. °Return of Criminal Cases.

VI. Meteorological Returns.

VII. Medical Reports of Major Black and Dr. Hickin.

VIII. °Report on Lighthouses.

IX. Mr. Dunn's Report.

X. Trade Report.

XI. °Postal Report.

XII. °Mine Managers' Report and Directors' Report.

XIII. °List of Volunteers.

° Not printed.

APPENDIX 1.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (R. WALTER), FOR THE YEAR 1903.

STAFF.

During the year 1903 there have been no alterations in the Chinese staff of the office. The service of Mr. Fêng, the chief clerk, who was engaged in 1902, have proved most valuable to the Government. He is one of the few well-educated Chinese in the dependency; although by birth a Southern Chinaman, he has succeeded in adapting himself thoroughly to the conditions prevailing here.

The European staff has been augmented by the addition of Inspectors Purdon and Young, both of whom formerly belonged to the 1st Chinese Regiment. As predicted in my last report, the services of Inspector Purdon have been of the greatest assistance to the Government. Owing to his knowledge of the local dialect, he is able to gather much useful information in his frequent journeys through the district, and, with the Chinese detectives under his control, he has been instrumental in running to earth cases of theft, robbery, and piracy. As an intelligence officer generally his work has been very good.

Inspector Young's main duties have been in connection with the town of Port Edward, for the good order and cleanliness of which he is responsible, and it is not untrue to say that the sanitary condition and tidiness of the town compare very favourably with those of any other settlement in China. Inspector Young is assisted by a small staff of municipal coolies, who, when occasion requires, also act as local police.

The office of the Secretary to Government has once more been moved, and is now located, permanently it may be hoped, at the East end of the Bund, in quarters formerly occupied by the Weihaiwei Club.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

(1.) ON MAINLAND.

(A.) *Criminal Cases.*

The people of the territory are, speaking generally, wonderfully quiet and law-abiding, and the crime that takes place is usually the work of those that have no fixed relation to the soil, or whose homes and interests are not in the territory itself.

The year under review has not been marked by any particular increase or decrease in crime. No cases of murder have occurred and only one robbery has taken place, in which the value of the property stolen exceeded $1,000.

Large Robbery at Hotel.—I refer to the robbery at Queen's Hotel, which took place on the evening of August 12th, 1903, when the manager's cash box, containing money, drafts, and cheques, amounting in all to over $2,200, together with jewellery and private papers, was stolen. It was a fortnight before any clue could be got as to who could have committed the robbery, and it then transpired that on the evening of the robbery, and for over a week before it, there had been a strange coolie who had been employed as a substitute by no fewer than four of the hotel coolies during the week of the robbery. This man had not been seen since the robbery, and was said to belong to the Wên Têng district. A detective had been previously sent in the guise of a brass-smith to find out any news possible from the borders beyond British territory. He came back, and reported that the notorious thief of the Wên Têng district was home again, living in style at his village Erh Ma, some 20 miles from Wên Têng. On receipt of this news, Inspector Purdon was sent to Wên Têng to obtain a warrant of arrest from the Chinese Magistrate, and he then proceeded to Erh Ma, and arrested the thief, who was found wearing a gold locket belonging to the hotel manager, and having in his possession some dollar notes and two gold pins. Further jewellery was subsequently found in the possession of a woman living at Erh Ma, and the thief finally volunteered to conduct Inspector Purdon to the spot where the rest of the booty was said to be buried—a house about four miles from the hotel. This led to the arrest of the thief's uncle, and the subsequent recovery of over $600 of the money stolen, together with the whole of the jewellery. The history of the case as narrated by Inspector Purdon reads like a romance, and the results achieved reflect the very greatest credit on the inspector and the detective force.

Gang Robberies.—During the winter months considerable agitation was caused throughout the territory by the frequency of what can only be described as gang-robberies. Small parties of armed men would go to a house and hold up the occupants, and rob them of their property. The alarm felt by the villagers became so great that many of the headmen petitioned to be allowed to buy guns to protect their villages. The sufferers, when questioned, invariably answered that they could not recognise the assailants. After careful enquiry Inspector Purdon has succeeded in bringing to justice two men concerned in these robberies, and finding a clue which it is hoped will check the trouble.

Inspector Purdon was also instrumental in bringing to justice two pirates who had pirated a Chinese junk in Chinese waters in the gulf of Pechili, and compelled the junk to put into Weihaiwei, where the pirates tried to dispose of some native wine from the junk pirated. The case was heard by the magistrate, and a *primâ facie* case having been made out against the accused, they were handed to the Chinese authorities.

The Government has done its utmost to protect the rights of local junks sailing under the flag issued by the authorities here, and compensation for injured junk people has been obtained in two cases: the first occurring at Tsing Kou in Kiang Nan province, where a fight arose owing to a collision between a Weihaiwei junk and a Tsing Kou junk, two men belonging to the former junk being seriously injured. A sum of $500 was paid as compensation, and handed by the magistrate to the parties injured.

A case of robbery from a native junk was also reported as having taken place off Corea, and the sum of $70 was obtained by the Government in compensation for the outrage.

The above cases were the principal criminal cases for the year; the remainder were chiefly cases of assault, illegal sale of opium, gambling, receiving stolen goods, and theft. A total of 140 prisoners passed through the lock-up on the mainland during the year, of whom 67 were sent to gaol on the island. The lock-up at Port Edward is only used for the custody of prisoners awaiting trial, and for the punishment of such prisoners as are sentenced to a few days' imprisonment only.

Fines of Court.—In the majority of cases heard, fines have been inflicted, and the total revenue derived from this source was on the mainland $1,697.75, being the result of one hundred cases of smuggling, breach of municipal regulations, gambling, etc.

In such cases a fine is more satisfactory than the simple imprisonment, which only costs the Government money, and brings to the offender little or no discomfort, beyond a certain amount of loss of face.

(B.) *Civil Cases.*

A large number of civil suits have been heard during the year, comprising the usual cases of debt, encroachment on land, redemption of mortgage and adoption. Between 700 and 800 petitions have been received and dealt with by the Magistrate.

Perhaps the most important civil case was one only recently heard—a case of mortgage, from the deeds produced in which case it has been discovered that there was a certain tax on waste land—known as tsao liang—formerly paid to the Chinese Government, but which has not as yet been collected by the British authorities owing to their ignorance of the existence of this tax under the Chinese régime. It is uncertain at present how much additional revenue will be derived from this tax—probably not very much.

II.—CRIMINAL CASES ON THE ISLAND.

The police force on the island is under the charge of Inspector Whittaker, formerly of the 1st Chinese Regiment, and the Inspector may be congratulated on the good order maintained on the island during the year.

The only important cases were those of theft, of which 23 cases came under the notice of the police. 112 cases of breach of municipal regulations were recorded, and a total of 186 cases came before the magistrate, including, in addition to the above named, a few cases of assault and gambling.

In almost all cases fines were inflicted and paid—a total of $377.50 being received from this source. The receipts from fines of courts show an increase upon those of 1902 of $350 on the mainland, and a decrease of $99 on the island.

Gaol.

The gaol of the dependency is on the island, and is now under the direct control of the Police Inspector, with whose residence it is immediately connected. The prison has been enlarged by the addition of six cells; and a Prison Ordinance has been introduced, laying down definite instructions as to the conduct of the gaol. The health of the prisoners has been uniformly good, not a single case of death in gaol having been reported.

The prisoners are engaged in useful out-of-door work, such as making public gardens, turfing the Bund, draining foul ponds, etc. They are provided with a distinctive uniform which would at once ensure recognition in the event of any attempt to escape. The gaol is visited daily by a medical officer, and by a magistrate from time to time.

Civil Cases on Island.

As the island is Government property, there is no land about which the Chinese can dispute, and the result is that there have been no civil cases heard.

COLLECTION OF REVENUE.

(A.) *Chinese Land Tax.*

This tax which forms the principal source of revenue for the dependency was collected in December at the rate of 2,400 cash to the tael. In my report for 1902 the question of the relation between cash and taels for purposes of Land Tax was discussed at some length, and it is unnecessary to go into that question again. The chief feature to be noted in connection with the Chinese Land Tax for 1903 is the rapidity and ease with which it was collected, and the utter absence of any attempt to evade payment.

The total amount collected was $14,928.23 cents, an increase of $628.23 cents on the collection for 1902. Books are kept based on the collection for 1902, and giving the names of each village with its headmen and the amount due, so that in future it will be far easier than in the past to check any failure to pay the due amount.

(B.) *Chinese Road Tax.*

During the past year a Road Tax has been instituted by the Government, with a view to making the owners of the soil pay something towards the upkeep of the roads in the territory. It was at first intended to make each village responsible for the upkeep of a certain portion of the road that ran through or near it, but the attempt did not prove satisfactory, and led to considerable trouble with the headmen. It was therefore decided to hand over the upkeep of roads to a contractor, and to levy a road tax upon the owners of land. The tax for 1903 was one-half of the Land Tax, and amounted to $7,454.12 cents, but in future years the Road Tax is to be the same as the Land Tax, and the total from these sources of revenue should amount to close on $30,000 annually.

(C.) *Opium, Wine, Slaughter-house Monopolies.*

As mentioned in my report for last year, there are three monopolies in the dependency, viz., those for slaughtering sheep and cattle, the opium monopoly, and the native wine monopoly.

The revenue derived from the slaughter-house monopoly for the year 1903 was $1,500—an amount exactly double that of 1902.

The opium monopoly on the mainland has produced $2,350; on the island the monopoly commenced on January 1st, 1903, and during the first year of its existence it produced a revenue of $550. This revenue will be further increased during the current year, as the sum of $1,000 has been offered and accepted for the monopoly from 1st January, 1904, till the end of the year.

Several cases of illicit sale of opium in various parts of the territory have been brought to the notice of the magistrate, and the offenders have in the great majority of cases been punished with a fine.

The native wine monopoly for the mainland has remained stationary, producing a revenue of $1,200, while the sum of $300 has been offered and accepted by Government for the extension of this monopoly to the island—an increase of $50 upon the amount paid during the previous year.

The extension of these two monopolies to the island, involving as it did the opening of establishments there for the sale of opium and wine, was the subject of some correspondence at the time, but the result has proved most satisfactory, both from the point of view of pecuniary profit to the Government, and from the police point of view, only one case of illicit selling of opium on the island having been brought to the notice of the authorities.

(D.) *Transfer Fees (Chinese).*

The office of the Secretary to Government is a registry office for Chinese transfers of land and mortgages. The system in practice is based upon that adopted by the Chinese Government, and finds expression in a proclamation issued by a former Governor of Shantung, Yuan Shi Kai, in 1901, in which the Governor soundly berates the parsimony and avarice of the people in neglecting to have the officially stamped form (or ch'i wei) attached to their deeds when a transfer of land or house property has taken place.

In 1902 the Government issued notices warning the people to come to the office and register their deeds, but at first very little notice was taken of the order, only 38 such transfers being registered in that year. But in 1903, after a second and more stirring proclamation had been issued, the people flocked to have their deeds registered and stamped, with the result that a total of 2,409 transfers have been registered, and a revenue of $2,190.43 collected. This source of revenue cannot, of course, be regarded as a permanent one, and in any case it is likely to decrease as time goes on. From the transfers registered, it is possible to form a rough idea of the average value of land in the dependency, and books are kept which show the areas, boundaries and particulars of each plot of land so registered.

(E.) *Chinese Junk Dues.*

The receipts from this tax amounted to over $1,800, an increase of $400 upon the amount given in my report for 1902, showing that the junk trade has expanded considerably during the past year.

The collection of this tax is at present on a somewhat unsatisfactory footing as there are no means of checking the amounts levied. The Chinese firm, I Ching Chan, is paid by the Government to collect the tax, and at present the only basis of security for the proper collection of the tax is in the fact that there have been no complaints made by the junk people who are only too glad to pay.

(F.) *Wharfage Dues.*

These dues are collected by the police on the island, and at the office of the Secretary to Government on the mainland.

The returns from the island amount to $917.18 up to date, while on the mainland, where comparatively little cargo is discharged direct from steamers, only about $150 have been received from this source.

(G.) *Licences.*

As regards licences, the chief feature of importance in the past year was the issue of the Public Laundry Ordinance, imposing licence fees for permission to open public laundries.

The introduction of laundry licences, and the consequent registration of laundrymen, were due to the frequent complaints made by the European community, and particularly in the case of His Majesty's ships in harbour, of loss of clothes, and inability to get hold of the offending washerman. A fee of $9 per quarter is charged for a laundry licence, and a total of $1,086 has been collected during the past year, the order having come into force from the 1st of April, 1903.

The Wine and Spirits Licence Ordinance came into force on December 1st, 1902, and during the past year a total of $657.33 has been collected—an amount corresponding almost exactly with the amount predicted in my last year's report. The main object of the Ordinance is to prevent small Chinese shopkeepers selling inferior liquor to soldiers and sailors from His Majesty's ships, and to restrict the sale of wines and spirits to houses that are known to be respectable.

Prospecting Licences.—Under the Weihaiwei Mining Concessions Ordinance of 1903, licences for prospecting are issued by the Secretary to Government, and a charge of $20 per licence is made, each licence extending for a period of six months. The greater portion of these licences have been taken out by the Weihaiwei Gold Mining Company, and the receipts from this source have amounted to $420.

Dog Licences.—The fees for dog licences are now collected on the mainland by Inspector Young, and on the island by Inspector Whittaker. The total receipts for the past year were: mainland, $44; island, $41; showing a considerable reduction in the number of licences issued, as compared with the preceding year.

Sampan Licences.—All sampans plying for hire are registered at the Island Police Court, and a monthly charge of 50 cents is made for registration. Each sampan has its number affixed to it on a small board, and plying for hire without a number is a punishable offence. The total amount collected for sampan licences up to date is $1,592.

Miscellaneous Licences. — Miscellaneous Licences include boarding-house licences, hawkers' licences, etc., payable at the Island Police Court. The total collected up to date amounts to $647.

(H.) *Rents from Colonial Lands and Houses.*

A considerable revenue is derived chiefly on the island from rents from colonial lands and houses, which are collected by the police authorities, and which up to date have produced a revenue of $9,647.40 cents.

The rent for the Island Racquet Courts is paid monthly to the Secretary to Government, and produces an annual revenue of $240.

On the mainland, a certain amount of revenue is derived from the rent of foreshore and Government buildings, and also from the various dismantled Chinese forts scattered along the coast. These forts belonged originally to the Chinese Government, and were handed over to the British Government at the time of our occupation.

From houses and lands rented to foreigners a revenue of $433 has been collected, while from the cultivation of these Chinese forts a total of $126.50 has been collected.

Foreshore.—The Chinese from time to time have tried to establish rights to certain valuable pieces of foreshore, more especially to that lying between the Market Place and the Parade Ground; but, after inquiry, it has been decided that no such rights exist, and the Government have had boundary stones set up to mark the land in question, and a nominal rent is charged for the right to store timber on such land or to erect temporary sheds for purposes of trade.

European Land Tax.—A tax of ½ per cent. on the purchase price of land is levied annually upon European owners of land. During the year 1903, seven purchases of land by Europeans have been registered, a total of 100 mu of land having been bought at an average rate of about 90 dollars per mu. The general tendency is for land to rise in value—a fact which points to the increasing prosperity of the dependency.

Miscellaneous Taxes.—Under the head of "Miscellaneous Taxes" may be included the small Chinese House Tax, collected quarterly for municipal purposes, and bringing in a revenue of about $1,200 per annum; the European House Tax of 5 per cent. on the value of all houses occupied by foreigners, but belonging to Chinese owners, and the fees for the registration of European title deeds and survey fees.

It should be mentioned that the figures given in the above summary of revenue collection are based upon the financial year, which began on April 1st, 1903, and are brought up to the date of writing, viz., March 1st, 1904.

REGISTRATION

(A.) *Births and Deaths.*

During the past year four births and three deaths have been registered at the office of the Secretary to Government on the mainland, and the births and deaths on the island at the Island Police Court.

The births and deaths of the Chinese on the mainland are not registered at present, and it is open to question, whether it would be practicable or desirable to legislate for such registration under present conditions. On the island, with its restricted area, the case is different, and registration is carried out with no difficulty; four Chinese births and 15 Chinese deaths have been registered there during the past year.

(B.) *Marriage.*

A new Marriage Ordinance has recently come into operation at Weihaiwei, under which the Secretary to Government is appointed Registrar of Marriages. I regret to say that, owing to the undeveloped state of the dependency, full advantage has not yet been taken of this beneficial measure—an evil which it is trusted will gradually disappear.

No marriages have as yet been registered in Weihaiwei, and no marriages have taken place there since its occupation by the British Government.

Registration Ordinance, 1903.

In this connection it may be mentioned that a new Registration Ordinance has been introduced during the year under review, and that various regulations will probably be made under this Ordinance during the coming year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

It is not possible in a report of this nature to describe in detail the various miscellaneous work which passes through the office. The Secretary to Government acts in various capacities such as Magistrate, Collector of Revenue, Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, in addition to attending to correspondence on every variety of subject dealing with the internal government of the territory. He is at times called upon to draft Ordinances, and during the past year two such Ordinances have been drafted, viz., a Pawnbrokers' Ordinance and a Weights and Measures Ordinance. As regards magisterial work, there still remains the difficulty, hinted at in previous reports, of getting the people to give evidence against one another in criminal cases, while in civil suits the magistrate is not infrequently baffled by the complexity and multiplicity of the evidence produced. As no fees of court are charged, the people come to court on every possible occasion, and bring law suits about the most minute subjects. As far as possible, the local custom forms the basis of judgment, but it requires considerable experience and knowledge to be *au fait* with Chinese custom and its manifold ramifications.

In conclusion, the year under review, although conspicuous for no very striking features, may be said to have been marked by quiet and steady progress. The revenue has increased largely, and the office accounts, thanks to the advice and guidance of Mr. Nicolle, Local Auditor of Hong Kong, have been put upon a more business-like footing.

Owing to the arrival in the police service of Inspector Purdon, the burden of discovering and arresting criminals has been shifted from the shoulders of the Magistrate, and the principle of having the same man as prosecutor and magistrate—a principle wrong in theory and unsatisfactory in practice—has passed away.

R. Walter,
Secretary to Government,
Weihaiwei.

APPENDIX II.

FINANCIAL RETURNS.

(*a*.) Summary of Expenditure.
(*b*.) Details of "
(*c*.) Summary of Revenue.
(*d*.) Details of "

(*a*) SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE.

Head.	Estimated. 1903–1904.			Actual. 1903–1904.	
	£	s.	d.	$	c.
Commissioner's Establishment	2,035	12	0	23,954	98
Secretary to Government's Establishment ...	832	0	0	10,647	32
Police and Gaol	1,454	0	0	14,573	19
Medical and Sanitary	1,600	0	0	12,920	74
Public Works Department	599	12	0	6,064	75
Public Works	6,858	0	0	66,564	72
Miscellaneous Services	2,621	0	0	31,704	76
Total	16,000	4	0	166,430	46

(*b*) EXPENDITURE.

—	Estimated. 1903–1904.			Actual. 1903–1904.	
Commissioner's Establishment—	£	s.	d.	$	c.
Commissioner's Salary etc.	1,600	0	0	18,850	60
" Fuel allowance	102	0	0	1,174	46
Office staff	283	12	0	2,440	53
Incidentals	50	0	0	1,489	39
Total	2,035	12	0	23,954	98
Secretary to Government's Establishment—					
Secretary to Government's Salary	500	0	0	5,890	81
" Fuel allowance	48	0	0	549	92
Staff	234	0	0	2,713	00
Incidentals	50	0	0	1,493	59
Total	832	0	0	10,647	32
Police and Gaol—					
Inspectors	780	0	0	6,460	23
" Fuel and Light	32	0	0	568	58
Police	252	0	0	1,412	76
Uniforms	40	0	0	668	52
Carried forward	1,104	0	0	9,110	09

(*b*) *Expenditure*—cont.

—	Estimated. 1903–1904.			Actual. 1903–1904.	
	£	*s.*	*d.*	$	*c.*
Brought forward	1,104	0	0	9,110	09
Police and Gaol—*cont.*					
Miscellaneous Expenses	150	0	0	3,966	79
Gaols	200	0	0	1,496	31
Total	1,454	0	0	14,573	19
Medical and Sanitary—					
Medical Officer	400	0	0	3,228	74
Officer, R.A.M.C.	150	0	0	1,767	20
Hospital Staff	300	0	0	1,207	00
Drugs, &c.	50	0	0	1,595	36
Miscellaneous Expenses	100	0	0	1,144	39
Sanitary	600	0	0	3,978	45
Total	• 1,600	0	0	12,920	74
Public Works Department—					
Engineer and Overseer	450	0	0	—	
R. E. Staff, &c., Messenger, &c.	69	12	0	3,291	64
Telephone Working, &c.	30	0	0	1,019	69
Incidentals	50	0	0	1,753	42
Total	599	12	0	6,064	75
Public Works—					
Roads and Bridges, &c.	2,500	0	0	27,039	54
Repairs and Alterations	500	0	0	15,556	82
Sanitary Improvements	1,000	0	0	15,085	65
Sea Wall, Island	500	0	0	2,100	00
Cemetery	500	0	0	1,000	00
Launch	1,500	0	0	5,166	44
Stores	358	0	0	616	27
Total	6,858	0	0	66,564	72
Miscellaneous Services—					
Stationery	100	0	0	332	65
Transport	80	0	0	2,867	58
Printing	100	0	0	1,290	26
Scholarships	150	0	0	375	00
Tree Planting	38	0	0	205	25
City Magistrate	48	0	0	480	00
Village Administration	65	0	0	1,017	99
Lighting Harbour	300	0	0	2,226	94
Mail Service	1,200	0	0	11,000	00
Launch Service	240	0	0	3,848	93
Furniture	100	0	0	1,102	69
Pony Allowance	100	0	0	1,087	33
Telegrams	100	0	0	476	46
Cable, cost of	—			5,393	68
Total	2,621	0	0	31,704	76

(c) SUMMARY OF REVENUE.

Head.	Estimated. 1903–1904.	Actual. 1903–1904.	
	$	$	c.
Licences	7,001	11,074	57
Fines	1,000	2,150	65
Junk Dues	—	1,957	53
Wharfage Dues	3,550	1,432	26
Sanitary work on Admiralty property	—	134	87
Fees of Court	—	2,291	83
Rents	13,684	12,793	80
House Tax	—	736	62
Land Tax	6,480	15,427	91
Road Tax	—	7,461	98
Interest	—	2,776	53
Sale of Old Stores	—	125	47
Total	31,715	58,364	02

(d) REVENUE 1903–1904.

—	Amount.	
Licences and Internal Revenue—	$	c.
Laundry	1,095	00
Ferry	5	00
Pawnbrokers	13	00
Prospecting	460	00
Sampan	1,812	00
Meatshop	175	00
Boarding-house	36	00
Cow	423	00
Bumboat	57	00
Hawkers	59	75
Fishing	114	00
Slaughter-house	1,500	00
Opium	3,012	50
Wine	2,119	82
Dog	100	00
Hotel	60	00
Quarry	32	50
	11,074	57
Fines	2,150	65
Junk Dues	1,957	53
Wharfage Dues	1,432	26
Sanitary work on Admiralty property	134	87
Total	16,749	88

(*d*) *Revenue*—cont.

—	Amount.
Fees of Court—	$ c.
Transfer Fees	2,127 83
Registration and Survey Fees	139 00
Sale of Maps	25 00
Total	2,291 83
Rents of Government Property, Land, and Houses—	
Rents	12,793 80
House Tax...	736 62
Land Tax	15,427 91
Road Tax	7,461 98
Total	36,420 31
Interest—	
On Fixed Deposit...	2,118 37
On Current Account	658 16
Total	2,776 53
Miscellaneous—	
Sale of Old Stores	125 47

SUMMARY.

—	Amount.
	$ c.
Licences and Internal Revenue ...	16,749 88
Fees of Court	2,291 83
Rents of Government Property, &c.	36,420 31
Interest	2,776 53
Miscellaneous	125 47
Total	58,364 02

APPENDIX VI.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN for the YEAR 1903.

1903.	Barometer.				Temperature.						Rain or Snow.	
	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Mean for the Month.	Range.	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Range in the Month.	Mean of all Highest.	Mean of all Lowest.	Mean daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount collected. (inches.)
January	30·518	30·024	30·287	·494	51·	17·	34·	35·	24·	11·	8 (6 snow)	0·23
February	30·500	29·972	30·362	·528	51·	20·	31·	40·	28·	12·	1	0·30
March	30·432	29·762	30·181	·670	60·	26·	34·	47·	34·	13·	4 (1 snow)	1·08
April	30·284	29·750	30·050	·534	76·	40·	36·	60·	44·	16·	4	3·57
May	30·168	29·500	29·924	·668	78·	43·	35·	68·	53·	15·	4	1·69
June	30·050	29·624	29·824	·426	89·	55·	34·	78·	61·	17·	2	1·37
July	29·932	29·568	29·780	·364	92·	61·	31·	80·	71·	9·	10	6·18
August	30·050	29·518	29·878	·532	90·	62·	28·	81·	70·	11·	13	14·18
September	30·168	29·850	30·113	·318	85·	60·	25·	77·	65·	12·	5	3·49
October	30·500	29·900	30·223	·600	72·	35·	37·	65·	49·	16·	5	1·84
November	30·624	30·000	30·307	·624	66·	26·	40·	50·	37·	13·	6 (2 snow)	1·07
December	30·459	29·928	30·244	·531	54·	17·	37·	43·	26·	17·	10	0·47
Mean	30·307	29·783	30·097	·524	72·	38·5	33·5	60·	47·	13·	72[°]	35·47[°]

[°] Total.

Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
February, 1904.

J. GREER BLACK,
Major, R.A.M.C.
Acting Medical Officer.

APPENDIX VII.

MEDICAL REPORT ON PORT EDWARD, WEIHAIWEI, FOR THE YEAR 1903, BY MAJOR J. GREER BLACK, R.A.M.C.

POPULATION, BIRTHS, DEATHS, ETC.

As no census has as yet been taken of either European or native population in this dependency and there is no registration of native births or deaths, it is not possible to frame statistics; but, even if it were possible, it would scarcely be trustworthy, as this place being a port the native population must fluctuate considerably, and also as it is a summer resort the European population is greatly increased during the season. Amongst the European population during the year the registrations were four births and one death, the latter from diabetes in a child.

PREVALENCE OF SICKNESS, ETC.

The total number of attendances for medicine and treatment at the Civil Hospital and Dispensary during the year has been 3,698.

The hospital has had two moves since last report, and another move is pending, which, owing to local circumstances, could not be avoided. It is hoped that the new home may be a permanent one, and so offer further attractions to the native sick.

The number of cases which required admission to hospital has been very small, the diseases and injuries being generally characterised by mildness.

The months during which the largest number of attendances has been recorded are July, August, September, and October (each having over 400), due to increase in the number of minor injuries and ailments brought for treatment.

SANITARY CONDITION.

The general sanitary condition of Port Edward is steadily improving. Some old houses have been cleared away, and replaced by good ones built on approved plans, also with tiled roofs in place of the old thatch. Cemented surface drains have increased. The roads still continue to be improved. Sanitary officers have been appointed by Ordinance with full powers, and the native generally is taking kindly to this (to him) new Western education.

General Diseases.

Number, 464.—A few cases each of S.C. fever, dysentery, malarial fever (not contracted locally), scrofula, and rheumatism, all mild.

Three cases of chronic tubercular leprosy, attending for treatment in June, July, and August only.

Venereal disease prevailed to a considerable extent, as in any port.

The other cases were of minor importance.

Although two cases of dengue (imported from Shanghai) and one case of diphtheria were under treatment privately in this place, followed by recovery, no further cases occurred. The source of the infection in the latter case could not be traced.

Plague and cholera, which were rampant in neighbouring ports, did not get any hold here.

No small-pox. No enteric fever.

Diseases of Nervous System.

Number, 79.—Neuralgia and headache were most common. One case of hysteria.

Diseases of the Eye.

Number, 256.—The Chinese eye seems to be rather susceptible to disease, but it is generally mild. As conjunctivitis, diseases of the cornea, and diseases of the eyelids make up the greater number of cases, it is probable that better care of the eyes, and, perhaps, more appreciation of the advantages of fresh air in the houses, would reduce the number.

Diseases of the Ear.

Number, 13.—All mild cases.

Diseases of the Nose.

Number, 4.—Mild.

Diseases of the Circulatory System.

Number, 55.—All mild, the majority being disordered action of heart.

DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.

Number, 97.—Bronchitis was most common, and fairly well distributed during the year. The sudden changes of temperature in the summer months, due to a change of wind, would probably account for this.

DISEASES OF DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.

Number, 244.—Dyspepsia, diarrhœa, and constipation account for more than half of the cases. This, as mentioned in the report for 1902, is, no doubt, largely due to the native diet.

One case of intestinal obstruction brought to hospital, *in extremis*, died shortly after admission.

The other cases were of mild import.

DISEASES OF LYMPHATIC SYSTEM.

Number, 50.—Usual form of inflammation and suppuration.

DISEASES OF URINARY SYSTEM AND MALE GENERATIVE ORGANS.

Number, 96.—Cystitis and soft chancre show largest attendances. There was one death from Bright's disease.

FEMALE DISEASES.

Number, 325.—Nothing of special importance to note, but this shows that a number of Chinese women took advantage of the Western methods of treatment.

DISEASES OF ORGANS OF LOCOMOTION.

Number, 82.—Principally myalgia, all mild.

DISEASES OF CONNECTIVE TISSUE.

Number, 520.—Eczema, boils, and ulcers, make up nearly two-thirds of this number, probably very much due to Chinese habits and diet.

The number of cases of parasitic affections of the skin was remarkably low.

LOCAL INJURIES.

Number, 641.—Principally minor wounds and bruises. A few cases of burns and scalds.

Three cases of fractured base of skull, with one death (day after admission), and two recoveries.

One severe case of compound fracture of the humerus, with implication of elbow joint, recovery with stiff joint.

TUMOURS.

Number, 54.—Principally the sebaceous form. No deaths.

POISONS.

Number, 19.—There were five cases of opium poisoning, with three deaths. These cases occurred in the months of January, April, July, August, and November (one in each month), showing no favouritism for a Chinese festival time or a short period of the year.

The deaths were principally due to the period of time allowed to elapse before any notice was taken.

There were 10 cases of phosphorus poisoning (3 in January, 3 in February, and 4 in June), with one death.

Also four cases of bites and stings, including one scorpion sting and one snake bite (species not known), all recovered.

ANIMAL PARASITES.

Number, 66.—Principally tœnia solium and ascaris lumbricoides. No deaths.

OPERATIONS.

Have all been of a minor character, and none worthy of special notice.

VACCINATION.

This is not compulsory in the dependency and, so far, the native has not taken to it as performed by Europeans.

The question of compulsory vaccination was discussed, but it was considered to be rather premature, and likely to be misunderstood, and an attempt was made to induce the native to present himself voluntarily. This, unfortunately, has not been successful. It seems that there is a popular idea that vaccination performed in the autumn and winter is "no good," but it is hoped that next spring may produce some candidates.

J. GREER BLACK,
Major, R.A.M.C.,
Acting Colonial Surgeon.

APPENDIX VII.

MEDICAL REPORT OF Dr. HICKIN ON THE ISLAND OF LIU KUNG.

The island of Liu Kung is extremely healthy. The climate is undoubtedly a fine one. Cool in summer, sunny and bracing in winter, it is salubrious all the year round. Previous reports of its excellence have not been exaggerated.

The temperature in the open verandah in the past summer did not exceed 86 Fahrenheit. The dryness of the atmosphere prevents the lassitude which is so much felt by southern residents in summer. There is no mud, and very little dust during any part of the year.

SANITATION.

It is probably better than that of any other watering place in China. The reasons for this are manifold. There is no overcrowding, Government can execute any measures it likes to devise, and has the advantage of profiting by lessons taught by other and older established places.

The sanitary inspectors make daily house-to-house visitations, and require all slops and rubbish to be daily removed from every house. They visit the dairies, and see that the milk is duly sealed and bottled, and that the premises are kept clean, and the cows free from disease.

All drains are open ones. No solid refuse is allowed to be thrown into the drains. Scavengers employed by Government daily remove all sewage and rubbish. The former is deposited in boats, and used by the farmers on the mainland; the latter is burnt in an incinerator.

Further improvements are being constantly carried out, as funds permit. A code of sanitary laws has been drafted under the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance.

QUARANTINE.

Vessels arriving here in the summer months are boarded and examined by the medical officer. Eighty-two vessels were examined last summer. H.M.S. " Ocean " arrived here in the early part of the summer, and reported having landed some of her men in Hong Kong suffering from disease, which was pronounced by the medical authorities to be pneumonic plague. Upon arrival here she had three men suffering apparently from a mild type of pneumonia, but, in view of the Hong Kong report, it was deemed advisable to land the men on Sun Island for observation, and to put the " Ocean " in quarantine.

The sputum was sent to the Municipal Health Laboratory at Shanghai, where a guarded opinion was given, owing to the absence of material for culture and inoculation tests. In the meantime another man on board H.M.S. "Ocean" was taken ill with symptoms pointing to pneumonia, and died in 36 hours. Material for culture and inoculation tests from the case were sent to Shanghai. The report of Dr. A. Moore, in charge of the Municipal Laboratory, was, that culture and inoculation experiments proved the disease to be ordinary pneumonia only. The cordial thanks of this Government were conveyed to Dr. Moore for the time and skill which he so readily gave to the elucidation of this problem.

GAOL ON LIU KUNG TAO.

The average number of prisoners during the past year amounted to about 20 per day.

The prisoners are inspected medically every day. The sanitation and dietary are excellent. This is proved by the remarkable health and vigour of the prisoners. No prisoner has suffered from any serious disease within the past six months. Inspector Whittaker, who is in charge of the gaol, takes great interest in this department of his work, and maintains the discipline of the gaol up to a high standard.

SULPHUR SPRING ON THE MAINLAND.

Baths, most artistically designed in Japanese fashion, for the special use of Europeans have been erected. They are conveniently situated within the compass of a short walk from the pier at Port Edward. The water, as analysed by the Government Analyst at Hong Kong, is of a high standard of excellence. The natural temperature of the water is as hot as can be comfortably borne. The baths will be useful in the cure of many ailments—rheumatism, boils, cutaneous affections, gout, digestive derangements, and as a general alterative. When the merits of these waters become known they are sure to be extensively patronised.

A GOVERNMENT DISPENSARY AND HOSPITAL FOR CHINESE.

This has been established at East Village. It is about three-quarters of a mile from the residential part of the island. A native doctor, thoroughly trained in European methods, is in charge of it, under Government supervision. In former years there was a similar institution under the charge of the Rev. C. H. Buxbaum, which did much good work. In view of the establishment of the above the latter institution was closed, and the drugs were transferred to the new dispensary to enable work to be carried on pending the arrival of fresh supplies from England.

The most striking facts with regard to the diseases seen, are their extremely trivial character, and the absence of malaria, phthisis, cancer, and the epidemic diseases.

The appended statistics are available from June to December only. Statistics for the diseases treated before the opening of the Government Dispensary are not forthcoming.

—	No. of Cases.	Remarks.
I.—GENERAL DISEASES.		
Small-pox	—	Rarely seen.
Measles	—	Epidemic in Chefoo in autumn.
Dengue	—	Extensive epidemic in Shanghai.
Plague	—	
Diphtheria	—	
Febricula	7	All mild cases.
Enteric Fever	—	
Cholera	—	Epidemic in Shanghai.
Dysentery	—	
Beri beri	—	
Malarial Fever	1	Imported.
Unclassed Fever	1	Malarial parasites absent, rather aggravated by quinine, no enteric symptoms.
Tubercle	—	Occurs rarely on the mainland.
Leprosy	—	
Syphilis (secondary) ...	11	
Animal Parasites	28	
Rheumatism...	10	
New Growths	—	
Anæmia	5	
Debility	2	
Total	65	
II.—LOCAL DISEASES.		
Nervous System	5	
Eye Diseases	26	
Ear „	4	
Circulatory System ...	8	
Respiratory „	18	
Digestive „	74	
Lymphatic „	6	
Urinary „	1	
Generative „	18	
Cutaneous „	145	
Injuries	27	
Total	397	
III.—OPERATIONS. ...	47	All minor.

POPULATION.

Birth and Death Rates.

Europeans resident on Island ...	129
Chinese resident registered males ...	1,576
„ „ „ females .	386
„ servants unregistered ...	100
	2,191

Births from 1st December, 1902, to 31st December, 1903:—

European males	2
„ females	2
Chinese males	3
„ females	1
	8

Deaths from 1st December, 1902, to 31st December, 1903:—

European males	3
Chinese males	12
„ females	3
	18

The European deaths were caused by:—
Heart disease, 1; drowning, 2.

HERBERT J. HICKIN,
M.B., C.M. (Glasgow),
L.M. (Dublin).

APPENDIX IX.

Botanical and Afforestation Department,
Hongkong, 15th January, 1904.

Sir,

In connection with my recent visit to Weihaiwei I have the honour to submit the following report on the agricultural and afforestation possibilities of that dependency.

I have, &c.,
S. T. Dunn,
Superintendent,
Botanical and Afforestation Department,
Hongkong.

His Honour,
J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G.,
Commissioner,
Weihaiwei.

REPORT ON THE AGRICULTURAL AND AFFORESTATION POSSIBILITIES OF WEIHAIWEI.

In offering the following recommendations for the utilisation of the agricultural resources of the territory, it has been assumed that the ultimate object of any present action in this department is to encourage sea-borne trade, and that the expenditure upon it is only justified in so far as it furthers that end. It is further assumed that the economical administration of forestry and agriculture in the future will depend upon the degree in which it has been possible to guide their development along natural lines suited to the inhabitants of the district.

The farmers appear to be shrewd and intelligent men to whom it should be possible to show the advantage of partaking in the various lines of enterprise here suggested. Their instinctive suspicion of the foreigner has largely disappeared, thanks, no doubt, to a wise and kindly administration of power, so that their co-operation, so important to trade development, may be looked for.

The land is naturally fertile, though the soil is too light for many crops. There is plenty of water to be had at all times by digging a few feet in the lower levels up to 300 feet above the sea level. In consequence of the cold north and north-west winds that prevail during the autumn and winter months artificial shelter is required for trees in all exposed situations. Plenty of naturally sheltered spots can, however, be found along the southern sides of the mountains.

With a productive land and willing inhabitants, the next essential for export trade is a good harbour, and it is unnecessary to point out that every improvement in this respect will render Weihaiwei better able to compete with other ports in North China. A harbour in the convenient position of this port, in which steamers could handle their cargoes in all weathers should attract some of the shipping from the exposed anchorage of Chefoo. There is probably no danger of the social discouragement of merchants or, for that matter, any other well-behaved persons wishing to settle in a British community, but the effect of such a course in a neighbouring settlement may be borne in mind with advantage.

After a careful consideration of the local conditions and an inspection of the various industries at Kiaochau, Chefoo and other ports, the following recommendations are submitted with regard to (1) the production at Weihaiwei of silk, (2) fruit, (3) the grape-vine, (4) the organisation for export of the more extensive field crops, (5) forestry and afforestation; to which are added notes on, (6) shade trees, and (7) the white wax industry.

(1.)—SILK.

There are about 85,000 acres in the territory, besides large tracts further south, planted with scrub oak (*Quercus serrata*), the food of the wild silk-worm. Shantung is near the centre of the natural range of this oak, which grows therefore under favourable conditions, flourishing everywhere on the lower slopes, irrespective of aspect. The district is thus eminently suited for the production of the silk-worm, and silk has long been one of its staple manufactures. The industry is a particularly economical one because land can be used for the cultivation of the oak which is of little use for other agricultural operations and is, therefore, cheap. The shoots moreover upon the leaves of which the worms are fed are cut down to the ground after two years' growth, and can be sold for fuel. Each *mow* produces from 7,000 to 10,000 cocoons annually which would command an average price at the present time of $17. There is a practically unlimited demand for the cocoons.

The extent to which wild silk is now produced shows that the Chinese recognise these advantages, and, if a convenient and free market were provided for the sale of their produce, the industry should spread to the total present capacity of the territory. I understand that Messrs. Cornabe, Eckford & Co. would find it feasible to erect a filature at Weihaiwei if a million cocoons a month were available and that, until that quantity were forthcoming, they would collect any smaller amount through an agent there for use at Chefoo. The full capacity of 85,000 acres of scrub oak at an output of 7,000 to 10,000 cocoons a *mow*, or, say, 50,000 per acre, would be more than 4,000 million cocoons per annum—many hundred times in excess of the above-mentioned minimum. It need hardly be pointed out that the establishment of a large filature at Weihaiwei would have wider effects than the encouragement of a local industry. Efforts should also be made to facilitate the importation of Manchurian cocoons. Duty has at present to be paid upon them at export from Manchuria and at import to Chefoo, Shanghai or other Treaty port. At Weihaiwei the absence of direct taxation should attract this trade when manufactories have once been started.

Within the leased territory there is apparently little other silk produced besides the oak-fed kind. But the thorn-fed variety is cultivated in the neighbourhood, viz., at Lai Yang, Ching Chu and Chau Tsun. It commands a better price than that produced from oak, and its culture should be encouraged. The thorn (*Cudrania triloba* or Chê Chi) grows readily in any situation, and could be procured locally for propagation. It is wild on the island and mainland. It would be economical to plant it and *Morus alba*, the mulberry, which is an alternative food, on banks in the arable land.

(2.)—FRUIT

It has been clearly shown at Chefoo that a flourishing trade can be initiated by the introduction of the best European varieties of fruits for cultivation by the Chinese. The Chefoo trade has greatly diminished of late years, apparently in consequence of the deterioration of the trees, rather than from any falling off in demand. A glance at Shanghai market prices shows that the deficiency has been partially met by the importation of Chinese varieties, but it is probable that European fruits would command good prices, as before, if they were obtainable in uniformly good condition and supplied regularly. A trade in fruit might be obtained with Shanghai and also with Port Arthur, and it is desirable that such should, if possible, be established.

It would be necessary in the first place to secure the services of a trained fruit-grower. Sir William Thiselton-Dyer, the Botanical Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, having experience of Colonial requirements, might be asked to recommend a man; a salary of £200 per annum and a house might be offered. The officer should be appointed as soon as possible and should arrive in the Colony in time to choose a suitable site for a preliminary experimental farm and to superintend the preparation of the ground before spring commences.

The most suitable sites from which to choose may be found in the valleys of the Fitzgerald Range from Port Edward to Wong Kai Tau, the valleys of the Seymour Range above Kua Shau Tien, Wong Tau and Ko Lar Dzi, the large valley above Yu Kia Kwong, the country round Su Ku Jwong and Wong Ai Tsun, and the valley above Nan Hu Ko. Shelter belts of *Catalpa Bungei* (Ch'iu Tzu Shu), *Populus alba* (Yang Shu), or of one of the native willows, *Salix babylonica* and *Salix triandra* (Hung Sin Liu), should be planted between the fruit trees in north and south lines. The proximity of the sea must be avoided. All young trees should be secured to firm stakes. Watering will be found necessary during the first year, but after that period only during dry spells in the rainy season.

The object being to encourage trade, the best varieties for introduction will be such as secure good prices in the markets mentioned; good early and late varieties of pears and apples, for instance, and any other fruits that travel well and do not compete with the unlimited and cheap Chinese fruit supply should be tried. Arrangements could be made for the despatch of cuttings from England by the officer appointed, and Californian varieities should be obtained later. When the trees are well established in the Government nursery, cuttings should be distributed at first *gratis* and afterwards at a small charge, to Chinese farmers, and every effort made to obtain a wide cultivation of good fruit. Arrangements can then gradually be made for its regular shipment to the various available markets. The success of the trade will depend somewhat on the regularity of supply and the uniform good quality of the first shipments, and some control might advantageously be exercised to secure these when the times arrives.

(3.)—GRAPE VINE.

There are numerous situations in the neighbourhood of Weihaiwei which apparently offer all that is required for the establishments of vineyards. The wine industry depends, however, for its success so largely on the employment of specially trained men that it does not seem desirable for the Government to spend money at this stage on its introduction. Every possible encouragement should, however, be offered to any individual or company willing to acquire land for the purpose. Baron von Babo of Chefoo who has for some time been in charge of a wine-making establishment there (on behalf of a Chinese firm) might be invited to visit Weihaiwei with a view to inspecting localities and considering the feasibility of starting a similar venture there.

(4.)—FIELD CROPS.

It is only necessary to observe the large exportation of ground-nuts from Tientsin and of beancake from Chefoo, each amounting now to more than one million taels per annum, in order to understand the possibilities of a well organised trade in such products at a free port like Weihaiwei. Chinese merchants should be approached with a view to creating such an organisation there. Both ground-nuts and beans are largely cultivated in the British territory and in the neighbouring parts of Shantung, and the connection of some of the chief agricultural tracts with the sea by means of light tramways would almost certainly result in a considerable export trade. Other crops grown in the district are available, but these two products especially deserve immediate attention on account of the large amount of shipping that would be necessary to handle them. The planting of trees for shelter on the boundary banks of fields would be advantageous, especially in districts exposed to the north and west. The same kinds should be used as are recommended for the protection of fruit trees and such economic species as *Fraxinus chinensis* mentioned below under "White Wax," and the mulberry and thorn referred to above under "Silk" might be added.

(5.)—FORESTRY.

In spite of the great advantages of the afforestation of waste lands, the time does not seem ripe for the large expenditure by the Government that would be necessary to plant on a profitable scale. Much can be done pending that time towards the preparation of the ground and of the people for a successful forestry scheme.

In the first place such ground as already bears timber, such as the tract west of the coast road from Mang-tao to Yeh-kou, should be protected. In parts of China where timber-growing is undertaken by private landowners, money is often wasted through cutting immature trees to meet some financial emergency. The Chinese readily understand that one pine tree grown for 20 years is worth much more than two grown for 10 years, and if some system could be introduced to enable them to tide over the bad year they would gladly make use of it. The purchase by the Government of immature trees would in certain cases be a good investment. Sale in this way at the current prices of felled timber might perhaps be made obligatory with benefit, but it must in that case be remembered that the seller should receive compensation for the loss of his land for replanting purposes during the time that elapses up to the year in which the trees reach their optimum value. It should be borne in mind that only those trees should be purchased whose spacing admits of full development; the felling of trees for the proper thinning of the plantations is to be encouraged, the selected remainder only being protected. The Government is fortunate in having within its jurisdiction a very large number of planted oak and other trees which would form a nucleus for future forestry, and it should take steps to preserve them by the above or some better means. The advice of the officer appointed to superintend the experiment farms would be sufficient for the guidance of the Government in such purchase, it being necessary only to insure the healthy development of the trees. When any trees become the property of the Government the former owner or the elders of the nearest village should be made responsible for them. Tree stealing is very difficult and expensive for foreigners to prevent; it can be more easily controlled by the Chinese authorities.

The existing timber having been secured it will probably be economical to wait for some years before commencing an afforestation scheme which can have only a slow and indirect effect on trade.

As far as can be seen from the present state of the timber market the most profitable species to plant when the time comes for so doing would be *Pinus Thunbergii*, *Pinus massoniana*, *Quercus dentata*, *Quercus serrata*, *Populus alba*, and *Robinia Pseudo-acacia*. Seeds of the first can be obtained from Japan, of the last from Germany, the remainder being local trees. The seedlings would be raised in nurseries near the site selected for planting, except in the case of the oaks, of which the acorns can be sown at once where they are intended to grow up. In either case pits must be loosened 18 inches cube, and the seedlings or seeds inserted shortly before the rains commence. They must be kept watered for a year. The water for this purpose in dry localities could be impounded in roughly constructed reservoirs in the gullies. The plantations of pines and of other trees should alternate to lessen the risk of fires and epidemics. The headmen of villages should be made responsible for the safety of the plantations from fire and theft.

It is not probable that any timber worth preserving will be found on waste lands. These are to a large extent scraped bare even of grass by the villagers. It would be beneficial not only to future afforestation but also to present agriculture if this system could gradually be stopped, so as to allow of the natural recuperation of the ground while inflicting no hardship on the people. In this case, too, the Chinese as a rule understand that they are harming their own interests by drying up their hills and fields, but they say that they are impelled by necessity to continue to do so. It should be carefully considered whether the supply of fuel is not sufficient without an absolute denudation of the ground, and in any case the pulling up of the grass and fern by the roots, and the digging up of the living stumps of wild shrubs and trees could be prohibited.

(6.)—SHADE TREES.

There are some quick-growing local trees which would serve all the purposes of shade trees for Weihaiwei. For the immediate proximity of the sea the most suitable is the Tamarisk, *Tamarix gallica* (Shan Ch'uan Liu). It can be propagated from cuttings from local trees. For other localities, *Sterculia platanifolia* (Wu Tung) and *Populus alba* (Yang Shu), are the best of the local species, while the Plane-tree, *Platanus orientalis*, the Acacia, *Robinia Pseudo-acacia*, and the Cherry, *Prunus Pseudo-cerasus* are good shade trees which could be obtained from Japan.

In all cases the trees should be preserved in nurseries until about 6 feet high and should then be transplanted into their permanent sites in early spring, protected by tree guards and secured to strong posts. At least a cubic yard of ground should be loosened for the planting of each tree.

(7.)—WHITE WAX.

Fraxinus chinensis (Pai La Shu), the tree upon which insect wax is produced, is common around Weihaiwei, and the valuable white wax is sparingly cultivated upon it by the Chinese. Although the insect deposits its wax upon the Ash, it breeds upon a species of Privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*) variously known as Ch'ing Shu, Tung Ch'ing Shu, or Pao Ko Tsao, and either the insects must be imported from a district where this tree grows or else the tree must be introduced, for it has not been observed in Shantung. The price of white wax has fallen and the supply has diminished of late years, but if a regular outturn were secured and exported the industry might be carried on profitably by the farmers in their spare time.

S. T. DUNN.

Hongkong,

15th January, 1904.

APPENDIX X.

Weihaiwei,
March, 1904.

WEIHAIWEI TRADE REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1903.

The principal features of interest during the year under review are—the increased number of steamers that passed through the port (66 per cent. more than in the previous year); the increase in exports of native produce; the increased import of kerosene oil and Japanese cotton yarn; and the establishment of a mail contract, which, besides ensuring the receipt and despatch of mails with some degree of regularity, has made the port much more "get-at-able" than hitherto, and conduces to extend the export trade, as native dealers are now able to make regular shipments.

During the summer there was some trouble with the Chinese Customs at Shanghai over the question as to whether Weihaiwei should be treated as a foreign port, or as a Treaty port of China, although since the British occupation in 1898 it had been treated as a foreign port. For some time they refused to grant drawbacks on foreign goods re-exported from Shanghai to Weihaiwei, and collected or tried to collect duty on goods in transit, *i.e.*, transhipment cargo from Hongkong viâ Shanghai to Weihaiwei. Later they agreed to grant drawbacks on re-exports, under guarantee from the importer at Weihaiwei that the goods were for consumption in the British leased territory.

The British merchants at Weihaiwei naturally protested against this treatment, and the Commissioner took up the matter, with the result that the following decision was arrived at in Peking in December:—

"Weihaiwei will receive the same treatment as a foreign port. Consequently no duties will be charged on merchandise in transit, and drawbacks will be allowed on foreign goods re-exported thither which have paid import duty, or on native goods which have paid coast trade duty at a Chinese port. On the other hand export duties will be collected on native goods, being an original export to Weihaiwei."

This is most satisfactory to all interested in the development of Weihaiwei as a commercial port, and the Commissioner especially is to be congratulated on the successful result of his endeavours to keep the port "free." There seems to be little doubt that the fact of Weihaiwei being a "free of duty" port, is the one chance it has of ever becoming a trading centre of any consequence.

SHIPPING.

Exclusive of Admiralty colliers, Government transports, and two small steamers running between this port and Chefoo, 242 steamers passed through Weihaiwei in 1903, as against 146 in 1902, and 115 in 1901. This increase is due partly to the mail contract—a number of steamers having called in with or for mails only, without cargo or passengers—and partly to the development of the port as a summer resort, which attracted a greater number of visitors; but a proportion of the increase is undoubtedly due to the augmented export of native products.

MAILS.

The mail contract appears to have worked satisfactorily, the bulk of the mails (29 out of 35) arriving in from 34 to 38 days, as will be seen by Table No. 2 appended.

Exports.

The increase in ground-nuts from 918 piculs in 1902 to 10,847 piculs in 1903; salt fish, 10 to 1,392 piculs; and ground-nut seeds, nil to 475 piculs is most satisfactory, and there is every reason to believe that these figures will be exceeded during 1904. There are several new items in the list of exports, such as cow hides, lard, silk pongees, red dates, but some of the sample shipments in 1902, beans, vermicelli, bones, were not repeated. Attempts have been made to induce capital for the formation of a company on a large scale, with foreign machinery, for the manufacture of beancake, bean oil, vermicelli, &c., but no definite result has yet been arrrived at, although it is still hoped that something may come of it, which would develop the export trade. A small native-style beancake mill has been started, the products of which are sold locally, and a few looms for making silk pongees are being worked, but at present only on a very small scale. The reeling of brown silk is also carried on to a small extent, and efforts are being made to develop this industry. A considerable business might be done in the growing of fruit for export, the climate, &c. being particularly suitable, but lack of local capital and initiative on the part of the natives do not tend to stimulate development.

Imports.

The increases of importance are American kerosene oil—50,350 gallons against 32,750 gallons in 1902; Russian kerosene oil—12,000 gallons (imported towards the end of the year, owing to the price of American oil having advanced so much as to make it almost too dear for the natives); and Japanese cotton yarn, as although the figures are not available, it is known that considerable quantities were imported from Chefoo by the small steamers trading with that port. Indigo, window glass, candles, and soap all show expansion. Explosives, dynamite, &c., were imported for the use of the Gold Mining Company and gunny bags to be used for packing ground-nuts, &c. No figures are available for junk-borne traffic, or for that of the small steamers trading with Chefoo, the figures given in Tables 3 and 4 being for imports and exports by steamers with foreign agents.

Taken as a whole, the statistics for 1903 may be said to be distinctly encouraging, and with the present Commissioner doing his utmost to foster and develop trade, it is not over-confident to say that the future of Weihaiwei as a commercial port is assured.

ERNEST E. CLARK.

TABLE No. 1.

SHIPPING.

Port.	Arrivals from		Departures to	
	1903.	1902.	1903.	1902.
Shanghai	119	91	101	46
Chefoo	103	44	113	91
Tientsin	4	2	3	4
Chinwangtao	5	1	—	—
Newchwang	2	—	8	1
Port Arthur	—	—	1	1
Dalny	—	—	2	—
Tsintau...	2	—	3	—
Swatow...	1	—	—	1
Hong Kong	3	4	7	1
Corea	—	—	1	—
Japan	3	4	3	1
Total	242	146	242	146

Tonnage and Nationality of Steamers.	1903.		1902.	
	No.	Net Registered Tons.	No.	Net Registered Tons.
British	233	237,998	140	147,443
German	2	1,688	—	—
Chinese	4	3,076	2	2,068
Japanese	3	2,178	4	2,298
Total	242	244,940	146	151,809

Above tables are exclusive of Admiralty colliers, Government transports, and two small steamers running between Chefoo and this port.

TABLE No. 2.

MAILS.

The mail contract with the China Navigation Co., Ltd., came into force on the 1st April, 1903, and during the eight months to 31st December, 1903, 18 English and 17 French mails were delivered at Weihaiwei under the contract, in the following times:—

Days from London to Weihaiwei.	English Mail.	French Mail.
33	—	1
34	5	1
35	4	1
36	6	3
37	1	4
38	—	4
39	1	—
40	—	1
41	—	1
42	1	1
Total ...	18 Mails.	17 Mails.

Average number of days in transit	35·7778	or, say	35¾ days.
	37·2353		37¼ „

TABLE No. 3.

EXPORTS.

Description.	Classifier.	1903.	1902.
Sassen	Piculs.	74·00	105·00
Ground nuts	„	10,847·30	918·00
„ Seeds	„	475·73	—
Beans	„	—	196·00
Salt fish	„	1,392.86	10·50
Vermicelli	„	—	92·50
Bones	„	—	105·00
Lime	„	—	16·80
Metals, old	„	133·00	313·00
Cow hides	„	47·00	—
Lard	„	95·81	—
Silk pongees	„	1·50	—
Compoy	„	·60	—
Dates, red	„	102·00	—
Foreign stores (re-exported) ...	„	374	431
„ wines „ ...	„	1,428	—
Hardware „ ...	„	10	—
Explosives „ ...	„	3	—
Timber „ ...	Pieces.	3,912	—
Machinery „ ...	Pkgs.	36	—
Animals, live „ ...	Pieces.	8	—
Furniture	Pkgs.	—	6
Sundries, unenumerated	„	192	96

TABLE No. 4.

IMPORTS.

Description.	Classifier.	1903.	1902.
Oil, kerosene, American	Gallons.	50,350	32,750
„ „ Russian	„	12,000	—
„ Wood	Pkgs.	120	—
„ Ground nut...	„	32	—
Flour, American	Piculs.	5,211·90	5,700·00
Cotton yarn and piece goods	„	2,133·00	1,570·00
Refined sugar	„	4,243·02	4,125·00
Paints, assorted...	Pkgs.	230	245
Indigo and other dyes	„	346	229
Hardware	„	427	966
Machinery	„	147	
Timber	Pieces.	626	4,359
Window glass	Boxes.	103	48
Candles	„	329	63
Soap	„	944	352
Wines, &c. and aërated waters ...	Pkgs.	5,014	7,381
Tobacco, cigars, cigarettes	„	162	96
Foreign stores and tinned provisions...	„	9,990	16,636
Fruit, vegetables, fresh	„	3,103	
Rice	Piculs.	1,207·00	
Furniture	Pkgs.	141	656
Bamboo brooms	„	151	—
Explosives	„	313	—
Matches	„	50	—
Gunny bags	„	99	—
Coal, Japanese and Chinese	Tons.	2,160	2,031
Animals, live	Pieces.	29	—
Sundries, unenumerated	Pkgs.	1,096	882
Cement	Piculs.	10,476·57	not specified.
Treasure	Value.	$608,600	

No Government Stores are included in the above list.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
401	British Solomon Islands	1902–1903
402	Cocos-Keeling Islands	1903
403	St. Vincent	1902–1903
404	Grenada	1903
405	Southern Nigeria	1902
406	Straits Settlements	"
407	Trinidad and Tobago	1902–1903
408	Basutoland	"
409	Northern Nigeria	1902
410	Malta	1902–1903
411	St Lucia...	1902
412	Mauritius	"
413	British Guiana	1902–1903
—	Bahamas (Printed separately as [Cd. 1985]) ...	1902
414	Jamaica	1902–1903
415	Falkland Islands	1903
416	Leeward Islands...	1902–1903
417	British Honduras	1903
418	Bermuda...	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 450.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1904.

(For Report for 1903, *see* No. 419.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1905.

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No. 450.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1903, *see* No. 419.)

COMMISSIONER STEWART LOCKHART to MR. LYTTELTON.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
15th April, 1905.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the Territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1904.

I have, &c.,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

STAFF.

The European staff at present responsible for or connected with the administration of this territory, with its population of 150,000, inhabiting an area of 285 square miles, is as follows:—

The Commissioner,
The Judge of the High Court,
The Secretary to Government and Magistrate.
A Cadet,
The Financial Assistant,
Three Inspectors of Police,
Two Medical Officers,
One Civil Engineer,
One Fruit Grower,

twelve in all, whose annual salaries and allowances amount to $43,169, or £4,137.

They are assisted by a native staff of Chinese, whose total annual emoluments amount to $11,166, or £1,070.

The total annual expenditure on account of the staff in 1904 was $54,335, or £5,207, as compared with $47,378, or £4,540 for 1903.

During the year Mr. Walter, Secretary to Government and Magistrate, was seconded for service as Emigration Agent at Ch'in-wang-tao for the Transvaal Government, and Mr. R. F. Johnston, Acting Assistant Colonial Secretary at Hong Kong, was appointed to take Mr. Walter's place at Weihaiwei.

Mr. Johnston's Report for 1904 will be found in Appendix I. The services of this capable officer have been of great assistance, and he has discharged the multifarious duties of his offices in a most satisfactory and efficient manner.

Mr. Taylor, Civil Engineer attached to the Naval Depôt, was relieved during the year by Mr. Simmers, who has advised this Government on public works generally and has directly superintended those carried out on the island.

Staff-Sergt. Griffin, R.E., Foreman of Works, who, with the assistance of two corporals and two sappers, looked after public works on the mainland, returned to England towards the end of the year. Since his departure Mr. Ching has, without any European assistance, supervised the works on the mainland.

Three new appointments were made during 1904:—

(1.) Mr. Bourne was appointed Judge of the High Court, the duties of which post had previously been discharged by the Commissioner. During Mr. Bourne's absence in England, Mr. J. C. E. Douglas, Acting Assistant Judge at Shanghai, was appointed Acting Judge of the High Court here.

(2.) Mr. Carpmael was appointed a Cadet, after having been successful at the competitive examination held in 1904, and arrived here in February last.

(3.) Mr. Gibbons was appointed as Fruit Grower, and arrived in January.

The Staff, though small, has proved itself capable of dealing satisfactorily with the affairs of this territory, with its 150,000 inhabitants, which demonstrates pretty clearly that the Chinaman in this part of the world, at any rate, is not as black as he is painted by those who, having no real knowledge or experience of him, irresponsibly describe him in terms which might be amusing to those who do know him, if they were not so unjust and abusive. A Chinaman, like other people, has his bad points, but he has also many excellent qualities, on which his critics so frequently turn a blind eye. Regarded impartially from an administrative point of view, the Chinaman is a most desirable person to govern, for being a great believer in home rule, his chief desire is to be left alone to govern himself and his family. He is, as a rule, sober, orderly, docile, kind to his parents and his children, thrifty, industrious, and contented. When such qualities predominate, it is not surprising that the Chinese are in many respects much superior to those who affect to despise them or to superciliously criticise them.

ADVISORY COUNCIL.

The council of merchants resident on the island, appointed in 1902, consists of:—

Mr. Duncan Clark, of the firm of Messrs. D. Clark & Co.

Mr. E. E. Clark, of the firm of Messrs. Lavers & Clark.

Mr. F. Larkins, of the firm of Messrs. Cornabe, Eckford, and Co.

The members of the Council have been consulted on various occasions during the year, and the benefit of their advice has been found of assistance.

FINANCES.

GRANT-IN-AID.

The following is a list of the grants-in-aid from Imperial funds since the territory came under the Colonial Office in 1901:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1901-2	11,250
1902-3	12,000
1903-4	9,000
1904-5	6,000
1905-6	3,000

This gradual decrease in the grant-in-aid must be regarded as satisfactory to the Imperial taxpayer, who has to pay it, and it is equally gratifying to Weihaiwei itself, for every place, like every person with any spirit of independence, while grateful for past kindnesses, must always be anxious to pay its own way. As the total revenue collected in 1901-2 amounted to $20,000, and the revenue collected last year to $90,325, it may be predicted with a fair amount of certainty that if the revenue continues to increase at the present rate and the expenditure remains about the same as it now is, Weihaiwei will not for long continue to be dependent on Imperial aid in order to make its budget balance.

REVENUE.

Whilst the grant-in-aid has been gradually decreasing, the revenue has been on the increase. In Appendix II. are given the returns of the estimated and actual revenue for 1904-5, which show that whilst the estimated revenue for the year was $59,000, the actual revenue collected amounted to $90,325, or an increase of $31,325. The actual revenue in 1903-4 amounted to $58,364, so that last year's revenue, as compared with that of the previous year, has increased by $31,961.

The chief increases are as follows:—

Wharfage Dues	$10,538
Official Signatures	3,317
Fines of Court	2,638
Cattle Inspection Dues	1,255

It is true that the existence of hostilities between Russia and Japan in the immediate neighbourhood of Weihaiwei accounts to a certain extent for the increase in the revenue, and it may be possible that when peace is made there may be a falling off in certain items of revenue. But, as a set off against this, it must be remembered that one of the results of these hostilities has been to deter people from interesting themselves in commercial enterprises here until the political horizon has become clearer. When every allowance has been made for the material advantages derived from the existence of a war in this neighbourhood, it is impossible not to be struck by the vitality shown by Weihaiwei, which no amount of uncertainty has been able to depress seriously. When the war is over, there seems every reason to believe that Weihaiwei will receive more serious attention from those engaged in commerce than it has in the past.

EXPENDITURE.

The estimated expenditure for 1904-5 was $190,212, whilst the actual expenditure, not including some small items in the Crown Agents' accounts for February and March, which have not yet been received, amounted to $163,118. In Appendix II. is given a summary and details of the various items of expenditure—estimated and actual.

ACCOUNTS.

Mr. Crofton, Acting Local Auditor, visited Weihaiwei at the beginning of the year, and made a thorough audit of the accounts. He informed me that he was especially pleased with the manner in which the Financial Assistant, Mr. Ching, had kept the general accounts of the territory, and commented favourably on the books kept by Inspector Whittaker on the island.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The expenditure on account of public works during the year amounted to $61,521·07, as compared with $50,676·93 in 1901-2, $55,286·12 in 1902-3, and $66,564·72 in 1903-4.

Quarters on the Bund were erected for an Inspector of Police, at a cost of about $6,000.

Special attention has been paid to the construction and maintenance of roads. The coast road has been metalled as far as the eighth mile-stone, and the Chefoo road as far as the third mile-stone. It is proposed that metalling be continued in the case of either road for about twelve miles, up to the point where the roads reach the boundary of the leased territory, and that the bridges be widened where desirable.

The roads recently constructed did not suffer much from the heavy rainfall in the month of July (20·82 inches), which was a severe test of their durability.

The question of the extension of Cowan Pier, at the Island, and the Port Edward Pier, has been raised, and when funds are available it is hoped that it will be possible to have such extensions effected.

The proposal to make a recreation ground and racecourse at Port Edward has not yet received approval, but it is generally acknowledged that such a ground and course would greatly add to the attractions of Weihaiwei. No doubt when other more pressing financial requirements have been satisfied, this scheme will receive more favourable consideration.

New public offices are also required, and a scheme for their erection is still under consideration.

Mr. Ching has supervised the works carried out on the mainland since the departure of Staff-Sergeant Griffin, R.E., in September last, and has discharged his duties in a most satisfactory manner.

Mr. Simmers has been responsible for the works on the island, and has proved himself a capable officer.

POLICE.

The Police Force, consisting of three European inspectors, one native sergeant, eight native constables, and six detectives, has discharged its duties satisfactorily, though it was necessary to dispense with the services of a native sergeant, who was found guilty of "squeezing."

Inspector Whittaker, who is stationed on the island, continued to discharge his duties in an efficient manner. Inspector Purdon, who acted as intelligence officer, always proved himself a zealous and capable officer. He has just received an appointment in South Africa, under the Transvaal Government.

Inspector Young, who was stationed at Port Edward, resigned his appointment a short time ago, and has returned to his military duties.

Steps are being taken to fill the vacancies which have thus arisen.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the administration of Weihaiwei is the entire absence of a police force, except at Port Edward and on the island, and the fact that, notwithstanding the absence of police, the people are so well behaved. This satisfactory result is, of course, due primarily to the law-abiding nature of the people as a whole, but the maintenance of the headman system and abstention from unnecessary interference in the affairs of the people certainly help to prevent friction and to produce contentment.

The Headmen have continued to co-operate satisfactorily with the Government. All of them assembled at Government House on Coronation Day, when those who had been reported as most zealous in the discharge of their duties were rewarded with medals. Special medals were also presented to the three oldest men in the territory, all of whom were over eighty, and one close on ninety years of age. After the ceremony of presentation, the Headmen were entertained at a banquet, and, through the kindness of Admiral Sir Gerard Noel, the Naval Commander-in-Chief, who placed a vessel at their disposal, were enabled to inspect the fleet, which was at anchor in the harbour.

CRIME.

With the exception of six cases of robbery with violence in the earlier part of the year, which were tried by the Commissioner sitting as Judge of the High Court and in which all the accused were found guilty, there has been a remarkable absence of crime throughout the territory. Full particulars regarding the administration of justice will be found in the interesting report of Mr. Johnston, Secretary to Government (Appendix I.).

PRISONS.

Forty-three prisoners passed through the prison on the mainland, and 112 through the prison on the island, making a total of 155.

The health of the prisoners has been excellent, and, as Dr. Hickin, the Medical Officer, points out, it is a rare event to have a prisoner on the sick list. On the contrary, the physique of prisoners generally improves to a marked degree whilst they are in prison.

EDUCATION.

The Weihaiwei School commenced work in its new building last year, and the enterprise of its headmaster, Mr. Beer, seems to be meeting with the success it deserves, as is shown by the increase in the number of pupils attending the school, which is now about thirty.

The work of the Anglo-Chinese School has been carried on by the Rev. Mr. Perry, who succeeded the Rev. Mr. Griffith.

A new free school for Chinese has recently been opened on the island, in which English and Chinese are taught. This school has been started by Mr. Duncan Clark, a local merchant, who defrays all the expenses connected with it. It has already attracted a good many pupils, and promises to be a success.

A free school for Chinese has also been started as an experiment at Port Edward by the Government, in which English and Chinese are taught. At present the number of pupils is still small.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS.

In Appendix III. will be found Meteorological Returns for the years 1899 to 1904, inclusive.

In 1904 snow fell on 18 days, the fall being as follows:—During the month of January, 0·20 inches; February, 0·09 inches; November, 2·40 inches; December, 3·05 inches. The days on which rain fell were 50. The total rain and snow fall during the year was 31·98 inches, as compared with 35·47 inches in 1903. The wettest month was July, during which there was a rainfall of 20·82 inches, or more than two-thirds of the total rainfall for the whole year.

The warmest months were June, July, August, and September. The mean of all the highest temperatures in each of those months in 1903-4 was:—

Month.	1903.	1904.
June	78	76
July	80	76
August	81	88
September ...	77	81

The highest temperature in any one month was 89 in August, the lowest in the same month being 64.

The coldest months were January, February, March, and December.

The winter of 1904 was more severe whilst the summer was cooler than the corresponding seasons of 1903. The mean of all the lowest temperatures in each of those months in 1903-4 was:—

Month.	1903.	1904.
January	24	20
February ...	28	23
March	34	29
December ...	26	25

The lowest temperature in any one month was 11, in January.

MEDICAL AND SANITARY.

The civil medical work on the mainland during the year has been under the charge of Major Black, R.A.M.C., and that on the island under the supervision of Dr. Hickin.

Their reports, which will be found in Appendix IV., show that Weihaiwei during 1904 has well maintained its high reputation for extreme salubrity. There was no epidemic of any kind, and nothing could better illustrate the healthiness of this territory than the fact, stated by Dr. Hickin, that no resident has suffered from any serious or prolonged illness contracted at Weihaiwei, or come under medical treatment at all except for a trivial case.

The total number of attendances at the Civil Hospital for Chinese on the mainland was 4,241, as compared with 3,698 last year and 1,742 in 1902.

At the Civil Hospital on the island the total number of cases during 1904 amounted to 1,702, whilst during the previous half-year only 397 were treated in the hospital.

These figures show that the Chinese realise more fully from year to year the benefits of Western treatment, of which they now more readily avail themselves.

There have been more cases than usual of small-pox. In fact, up to last year no case of this disease, except such as had been imported, had been reported. Every attempt has been made to encourage the inhabitants to be re-vaccinated, and with success, especially when it is remembered that it is commonly believed by the Chinese in this part of the world that if they are once vaccinated, they are immune from the disease. It is hoped that, as they gradually realise the folly of such a mistaken belief, the difficulties of inducing them to submit to vaccination will vanish.

The new buildings used for a hospital on the mainland are a great improvement on those formerly utilised for that purpose, and are sufficient for present requirements. But as Major Black points out, the buildings now used for an isolation hospital are rather far removed from Port Edward, though distance in such a case has its advantages as well as its drawbacks.

There is a marked absence this year, as in previous years, of tuberculous disease among the Chinese living in this territory. The immunity is no doubt in part due to the fact that they live in a healthy climate, and spend most of their time in the open air. The climate, with its delightful sunshine, prevalent throughout the year, and its dry, bracing atmosphere, so fully charged with ozone, is one that appears specially adapted for the home of the consumptive patient or the treatment of his disease. Suitable sites, with a southern aspect and sheltered from the north by high hills, are plentiful, and there seems no reason why a sanatorium for the treatment of consumption should not be successfully established here. In the opinion of one medical authority, who has lived here, such a sanatorium would ensure a better prospect of cure than in any place in the United Kingdom. It has become so much the habit of those that take an interest in Weihaiwei to regard it from the point of view of guns, armament, and commerce that its great value as a health resort for Europeans and Americans resident in the East has not received the attention it deserves. But anyone who has enjoyed the invigorating climate of Weihaiwei will never forget his experience, which it will almost certainly be his desire to renew on the first favourable opportunity.

The general sanitary condition of the place is good and being improved. The general cleanliness of the Island and Port Edward, and of the villages throughout the territory, is a pleasing contrast to the prevailing dirt and unhealthiness in other regions where the cost of sanitary maintenance amounts to alarming figures.

Perhaps no truer indication of the healthy nature of the place could be found than the benefit derived from a visit to Weihaiwei during the warmest and most trying part of the year by the crews of the ships of His Majesty's Navy. Officers of that service have frequently told me that it requires but a short stay in these waters to produce a most marked change for the better in the health of the ships' crews, and an analysis of the sick lists of the various ships during their stay here would result in giving to Weihaiwei a certificate for maintaining and producing good health which many places could not equal and few could surpass. The value of such a health resort to the British Navy on this station cannot be measured in words, but it requires to be emphasised, as it seems to be so often overlooked.

SULPHUR BATHS.

The Sulphur Baths have been completed, and it is hoped that they will be found useful and attractive in view of the favourable opinions expressed regarding them by the Principal Civil Medical Officer of Hong Kong, who stated that the water of the baths would be likely to prove beneficial as an alterative and for rheumatic complaints, and by the Government Analyst of Kong Kong, who analysed the water and certified that the analysis showed it to be a natural sulphur spring water, containing substances of high remedial value.

The baths are modelled on those so popular in Japan, and are under Japanese management.

LIGHTHOUSES.

In Appendix V. is a report from Engineer-Lieutenant Wall, R.N., Inspector of Lighthouses for this Government, which shows that the two lighthouses in this territory have been maintained in a state of efficiency. Engineer-Lieutenant Wall's period of service at Weihaiwei will expire shortly. His professional knowledge, which has on many occasions been of great assistance, has always been most willingly and readily placed at the disposal of this Government. His departure will be much regretted.

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances, after having been approved, were duly proclaimed:—

No. 1 of 1904.—The Weights and Measures Ordinance.
No. 2 of 1904.—The Dogs' Ordinance.
No. 3 of 1904.—The Rowing Boat Ordinance.
No. 4 of 1904.—The Liquor Licences Ordinance.
No. 5 of 1904.—The Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance.
No. 6 of 1904.—The Pawnbrokers' Ordinance.
No. 7 of 1904.—The Probates Ordinance.
No. 8 of 1904.—The Land and Road Tax Ordinance.
No. 9 of 1904.—The Foreign Deserters' Ordinance.
No. 10 of 1904.—The Official Signatures Ordinance.
No. 11 of 1904.—The Private Lands Resumption Ordinance.
No. 12 of 1904.—The Pensions Ordinance.
No. 13 of 1904.—The Weights and Measures Ordinance Amendment Ordinance, 1904.

AGRICULTURE, AFFORESTATION, FRUIT-GROWING.

As was stated in last year's Report, Mr. Dunn, the Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department, Hong Kong, visited Weihaiwei and reported on its agricultural and afforestation possibilities, giving it as his opinion that this territory would make an excellent centre for the cultivation of silk, the growing of fruit, the establishment of vineyards, and of a trade in beancake.

In pursuance of his advice the services of a trained fruit-grower—Mr. Gibbons—have been obtained from home. After a visit to the German leased territory at Kiaochou and to the Chinese treaty Port of Chefoo, both of which are situated in the same province as Weihaiwei, and at the latter of which fruit culture has been carried on successfully for many years, he is of opinion that, as the soil and situation here compare favourably with those of Kiaochou and Chefoo, there is no reason why fruit should not be cultivated successfully at Weihaiwei. Fruit trees of many varieties have been obtained from home, and it is hoped that the experiments now being made may ultimately result in Weihaiwei becoming a centre for the supply of Shanghai and other places, where there is always a great demand for fruit.

It had been hoped that one of the largest British firms in the Far East would have interested itself last year in the cultivation of silk and the establishment of a trade in beancake here. But the outbreak of war prevented the schemes in contemplation from being started. When peace has been restored, they will no doubt receive consideration.

Attention is being paid to the planting of trees. The advice of Mr. Dunn has been obtained, and Mr. Gibbons is taking steps to plant a good many trees this year. Progress in tree-planting must be necessarily slow, but there is no reason why in time the bare hills surrounding Weihaiwei should not be covered with trees in the same manner as at Hong Kong. This would certainly much improve the appearance of the place, though it is naturally much more picturesque than is commonly believed.

TRADE.

A report on the trade at Weihaiwei during 1904, which Mr. E. Clark, of the firm of Messrs. Lavers & Clark, has been good enough to draw up, is given in Appendix VI.

This report shows that during 1904 shipping has increased, and that there has been a large increase in imports and a fair increase in exports.

During the year 315 steamers, exclusive of Admiralty colliers, Government transports, and small coasting steamers, entered this port, representing a tonnage of 317,595 tons. The figures for the two previous years were as follows:—

Year.	Number.	Tonnage.
1902	146	151,809
1903	242	244,940

These figures do not, as pointed out by Mr. Clark, include small steamers mostly owned by Japanese trading with Chefoo, Dalny, and other places in the Gulf of Pechili. A record is now being kept of such steamers, which shows that during the first quarter of this year no fewer than sixty-four entered this port, representing a tonnage of 14,154 tons.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.

A copy of the report of the postal agent for 1904 is given in Appendix VII.

The post office of Weihaiwei is still a branch of the Hong Kong Post Office, no steps having yet been taken to establish an independent post office for this territory.

Twenty-six English mails were received during the year, the average time from London being 36 days. Twenty-six French mails arrived, the average time from Europe being 38 days.

The value of stamps and postal orders sold during the year amounted to $23,337.63.

The mails despatched by steamer for Shanghai, Hong Kong, &c., and Europe numbered 402 composed of 759 bags which, in addition to ordinary letters, consisted of 2,094 parcels and 4,287 registered letters.

The mails received from Shanghai, Hong Kong, &c., amounted to 469 in 2,225 bags, which included besides ordinary letters 1,757 parcels and registered mail matter.

An overland courier service is also maintained between this territory and Chefoo. The average time taken for the journey, a distance of 60 miles, is 24 hours and the mails have averaged three a week. One hundred and fifty-six mails were sent to and 154 received from Chefoo.

The Siberian mail route, which was a great boon to Weihaiwei, as it enabled residents to receive letters in three weeks, was closed at the beginning of February on account of the outbreak of war.

The offices of the Chinese Post Office were withdrawn from this territory on the 1st April, 1904. There is a branch of that post office in the City of Weihaiwei, which is availed of to transmit letters to Europeans in the interior.

The contract with the China Navigation Company for carrying mails to and from Shanghai, which commenced in 1903, was renewed in 1904 and worked satisfactorily.

MINING.

Thirty-nine prospecting licences were renewed during the year.

The Weihaiwei Gold Mining Company has established a crushing mill and other machinery, but difficulties have recently arisen regarding the management of the Company which is now in process of being reconstructed.

NAVY AND ARMY.

The fleet last year, under Vice-Admiral Sir Gerard Noel, remained longer at Weihaiwei than any other year since my arrival here in 1902, much to the delight of the residents and visitors and to the profit of those engaged in trade. The behaviour of the bluejackets could not have been better, which is all the more creditable when it is remembered that there are not many amusements for "Jack Ashore" during the summer, which is also a thirsty season.

The Chilian training ship "General Baquedano," Captain Gomes; the Portuguese battleship "Vasco da Gama," Captain Carvalho; and the Italian cruiser "Marco Polo" flying the flag of the Italian Commander-in-Chief, Rear-Admiral Grenet, visited Weihaiwei during the year.

The men of the Chinese Regiment have behaved excellently and have given no trouble of any kind. A company of the Sherwood Foresters was stationed at Port Edward during the summer months and their behaviour was also exemplary.

CONCLUSION.

It is gratifying to be able to report that the progress made during 1904 has been so satisfactory. The revenue is more than four times as large as it was in 1901-2, whilst the expenditure has been kept well within bounds. The grant-in-aid from Imperial funds has been reduced from $12,000 for 1902-3 to $3,000 for 1905-6. Crime of a serious nature has been very rare and the people have proved themselves orderly and well behaved. The inhabitants are prospering under British rule. Beggars are almost unknown. In certain quarters there has been a tendency to scoff at Weihaiwei as a place that might be dropped out of the list of British possessions without being much missed. Such criticism seems to forget the progress already made under circumstances not altogether favourable: to ignore the fact that the harbour, which is the best north of Hong Kong, is of great use to our fleet; and to be unmindful of the value of the climate to a European power with vast interests in the Far East. Weihaiwei is by no means so unimportant a place as some seem to regard it, but a possession which, if given a fair chance of devolopment, will prove itself more and more valuable to the Empire.

J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Commissioner.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
15th April, 1905.

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* Summary only printed.

† Part only printed.

‡ Not printed.

APPENDIX I.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT FOR THE YEAR 1904.

I.—STAFF AND DUTIES.

Mr. R. Walter, Secretary to Government and Magistrate, left Weihaiwei in May, 1904, for service under the Transvaal Government in connection with Chinese emigration. To take his place I was seconded from Hong Kong, where I was acting as Assistant Colonial Secretary, and arrived at Weihaiwei towards the end of May.

Shortly after my arrival it was my unwelcome duty to hold an inquiry into the conduct of the Interpreter in the Magistrate's Court, who, like his predecessor, was found to have yielded to the many temptations that beset Chinese officers in his position. The inquiry having resulted in his dismissal, he was succeeded by Mr. Hsieh, a young officer who shows ability and promise. Otherwise there have been no changes in the office staff, though by a re-arrangement and centralisation of the various duties devolving upon the Secretary to Government's office I have found it possible to recommend the reduction of the staff by one writer. Effect will be given to this recommendation at the commencement of the next financial year. My office staff will then consist of a Chief Clerk and Interpreter, and two Chinese writers, with four tingchais or yamen-runners. In the investigation of civil and criminal cases I receive assistance from the European detective-inspector (Mr. R. Purdon) and a small staff of Chinese detectives, and in other matters from the two European police inspectors of Port Edward and Liukungtao. I have nothing but praise for the admirable manner in which Inspector Purdon has discharged the various duties entrusted to him. His exceptional knowledge of both written and spoken Chinese, and the acumen and zeal shown by him in the investigation of such cases as I have referred to him for inquiry, have rendered his services of great value. I am also satisfied with the work done by Inspector Whittaker, on Liukungtao, to which reference will be made later. The Port Edward Inspector has failed to give satisfaction, and has recently tendered his resignation.

The Secretary to Government is also sole Magistrate for the Territory, and holds, besides, certain minor posts which tend to increase in number. In practice, the greater part of his duties are similar in character to those of the Registrar-General or Protector of Chinese in other Eastern Colonies, combined with those of Magistrate and Collector of Revenue. He also inspects and reports upon the island police force and the two gaols, pays periodical visits to the Government School in Port Edward, and acts as Registrar of marriages, births, deaths, and probates.

In the administration of justice the Magistrate is guided by the Weihaiwei Order in Council of 1901, by the local Ordinances promulgated by the Commissioner, and by the statute law of England. In dealing with civil cases among the native population, the law administered is always the customary and written law of China, except when such law or custom is repugnant to British conceptions of justice and morality.

Previous Annual Reports will have shown how difficult it is to convince our Chinese subjects that British justice is not a marketable commodity. The greatest vigilance on the part of the Magistrate cannot ensure that no money is passing from plaintiffs and defendants into the hands of his Chinese subordinates, and it is all but impossible to make litigants understand that bribery of underlings does not and cannot have the slightest effect upon magisterial decisions. Cases of extortion, when detected, are very severely dealt with, and the details of such convictions made as public as possible. It is most difficult, however, to persuade the Chinese to give evidence in such cases; for, with their intimate knowledge of the tendency of Chinese magistrates to connive at the malpractices of their subordinates, they hesitate to believe that a British magistrate can be in earnest. When a conviction has taken place and the culprit sentenced to punishment, their delight knows no bounds, and then they come forward readily enough with evidence that is no longer required. A Chinese police-sergeant on Liukungtao was some months ago convicted before me on several charges of extortion. When the glad tidings went forth that their tyrant had gone to gaol, the people showed their satisfaction by holding a special theatrical performance. As far as the Magistrate's Court is concerned, I hope that such cases will in future be very rare. On my arrival at Weihaiwei I found room for improvement in the judicial procedure then in vogue, and I have remodelled the system of receiving and dealing with "petitions" in such a way that the opportunities for extortion on the part of my staff are now much curtailed. All petitions are brought to the Magistrate by the petitioners in person, and the Magistrate's house, as well as his Court, are open at all times to all persons who wish to make statements or to bring complaints.

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

(A.) CRIMINAL AND POLICE CASES.

There have been only six cases of serious crime reported and dealt with during the year under review, which for the purposes of this Report is taken to include the whole of 1904. These were all cases of robbery with violence, and the criminals concerned were sentenced by the High Court to terms of imprisonment varying from two to eight years. There were no less than three cases of suicide by Chinese women, each of whom, in a fit of rage caused by jealousy, swallowed the heads of lucifer matches and so died. The criminal cases dealt with by the Magistrate's Court were comparatively few in number but miscellaneous in character. Apart from a few cases of robbery and assault, there has been a very remarkable absence of crime in the villages and country districts; and crime in the neighbourhood of Port Edward and Liukungtao has generally been found to be due to the presence of a floating population of adventurers and bad characters, many of whom were attracted to Weihaiwei by the fact of its proximity to the scene of war.

On the Island of Liukungtao 119 cases were tried during the year. Of these 27 were cases of breach of sanitary regulations, 43 of breaches of the regulations regarding sampans and junks, and 27 of theft. Other offences were, attempted arson (1), gambling (5), receiving stolen property (5), adulteration of food, disorderly conduct and assault. I am glad to be able to report that the behaviour of the British bluejackets, during the presence for a great part of the year of nearly the whole China Fleet, was on the whole exceedingly good, and the thanks of the Government are due to the naval officers who rendered willing co-operation in preserving order among their men while ashore. The exuberant spirits of several thousand sailors, who were no doubt glad to find a haven of rest after many weary weeks spent at sea and in the cheerless and tempestuous neighbourhood of Yung Ch'êng Bay, caused some temporary and perhaps justifiable panic among the small Chinese shopkeepers of Liukungtao, but the readiness with which the naval authorities acceded to my suggestions with regard to the disposal of the naval pickets enabled me to cope successfully with the difficulty. As regards the Mainland, the Chinese Regiment maintained its character for orderly behaviour, and not many of its men have appeared before the magisterial tribunal. I have noticed that a military training appears to produce in some of the men an apparent diminution of their native respect for civil authority, and ex-soldiers who continue to reside within British territory are apt to be less respectful in their demeanour and less obedient to civil law than their rustic neighbours who have never donned a British soldier's uniform.

The policing of the Island of Liukungtao, where reside the greater number of the European residents of Weihaiwei, is entrusted to a Police Inspector (Mr. Whittaker), who is assisted by a staff of Chinese policemen and prison-warders. He is also directly responsible for the collection of all revenue on the island, comprising sampan and other licences, rents of Government property, and the fines of court imposed by the Magistrate, who visits the island periodically for the purpose of trying cases. I am entirely satisfied with the manner in which Inspector Whittaker carries out his various duties, especially those relating to finance. I have investigated several reports made to me at various times regarding the comparative frequency of larceny and petty crime on the island, and in nearly every case I have found that neither negligence nor incapacity could be ascribed to the police. The population of the island is far more congested and more miscellaneous than in any other part of the territory. It consists of immigrant Chinese merchants from Kuangtung and other distant provinces; a migratory crowd of coolies who flock to the island to pick up miscellaneous jobs, especially as sampan coolies, when the British Fleet pays its annual visit to our shores; small Japanese shopkeepers; Chinese workmen, employed in the Naval workshops; and a floating population of all nationalities that come and go with the foreign and native shipping and make the island their temporary dwelling-place. Besides the resident Europeans, there is a periodical advent of thousands of British sailors, who spend within the narrow limits of the island all their spare time and most of their accumulated dollars. It will be readily understood that to maintain perfect order within so contracted a space and amid so heterogeneous a population requires no little skill and patience; and when the difficulties of the situation are fairly taken into account, I consider that the task of keeping order is efficiently carried out by the one European officer and the small staff of Chinese police to whom the work is entrusted. With regard to the petty thefts that have been reported from time to time, I would refer to the following observation made by my predecessor in his Report for 1902:—"Not infrequently . . . . the theft is largely due to the consummate carelessness of Europeans, who place implicit confidence in their Chinese servants and then come and complain to the Magistrate that their property has been stolen." This is a remark with which circumstances have placed me in full agreement.

(B.) CIVIL CASES.

The greater portion of the Magistrate's time is occupied with the adjudication of civil suits. Nearly all such suits are between Chinese, and are dealt with according to Chinese law and custom as modified by, or so far as consistent with, British conceptions of equity. The majority of such cases, of which there were over 400 during 1904, result from disputes as to the ownership of land, marriage contracts, contested "adoptions," pedigrees, tombstones, ancestral tablets, and all the miscellaneous difficulties that vex and harass the peace of a Chinese village. Over 1,000 petitions on various subjects were received during the year.

The majority of civil cases are simple enough in the end, though they may necessitate independent inquiries by the Court in order to arrive at the truth. If civil cases in Weihaiwei were decided entirely by British rules of evidence and strictly in accordance with the information laid before the Court by the parties concerned it is to be feared that justice would seldom be done except by accident. The most troublesome cases are those which necessitate a careful examination of pedigrees, wills and title-deeds, and which, if a verdict is to be given at all, must be decided in strict accordance with Chinese civil law, or, what requires still greater care, the unwritten law of local custom. If, indeed, all cases concerning the ownership of land were decided in accordance with the letter of the Chinese law, much hardship would unquestionably be inflicted upon innocent occupiers of land whose title-deeds were missing or not in order. And the fact that many valuable title-deeds and other family documents were destroyed at the time of the capture of Weihaiwei by the Japanese in 1894 tends to add to the complexity of many of the disputes concerning land which have now to be dealt with by a British Magistrate. One of the most important of the land cases which I have been called upon to decide during 1904 related to the ownership of a large tract of land, bordering on the sea, about four or five miles from Port Edward. The dispute was between the inhabitants of the two villages of East and West Lao Tai. A "red" deed was produced by one of the parties in this case, bearing the date Chia Ching XXXVIII (1561). As my own enquiries into this case led me to the belief that the greater part of the land belonged to neither party and was in reality "Crown" land, I corresponded on the subject with the Chinese Magistrate of the Wên Têng district, in which the greater part of the territory of Weihaiwei was formerly situated, and requested him to give me his opinion on the case after a reference to his own records. I also personally discussed the matter with him during an official visit to his headquarters in the City of Wên Têng. The result was that I declared the larger portion of the land in question to belong to the Government. It is possible that it may some day be of considerable value, if only as a golf-course. There was no appeal against my decision, the parties being probably glad enough to be confirmed in their possession of the area that remained. It is very probable that if the territory were cadastrally surveyed and a land court established to inquire into titles, very large areas of land would be found to be in the possession of persons who could produce no documentary proof of ownership. But even if the Government were to exact its legal rights to the uttermost square foot, I doubt whether it could recoup itself for the heavy expenditure which a survey and a land court would certainly involve.

III.—COLLECTION OF REVENUE.

The Magistrate, as Secretary to Government, is entrusted with the duty of collecting all revenue except such as is raised on the Island of Liukungtao. The fact that the amount collected by me in the month of December, 1904, was about $6,000 more than all the revenue of the territory for the whole year 1901-2 is sufficient to indicate that the revenue is showing a satisfactory elasticity. It will be noticed from the revenue returns that one of the greatest increases comes under the head of wharfage dues, a charge of one cent a package levied on all cargo brought into the port. This was due chiefly to abnormal conditions brought about by the Russo-Japanese war, and it cannot be hoped that the returns from this source will continue to be equally satisfactory during the ensuing year. I think, however, it is fair to say that the increase is also partly due to the natural expansion of trade, and partly to improved methods of collection and supervision.

IV.—REGISTRATION.

(A.) Births and Deaths.

One birth and three deaths have been registered in the office of the Secretary to Government and in Liukungtao. It has not yet been found practicable to register the births and deaths of Chinese on the mainland. On the island six Chinese births and 17 Chinese deaths were registered.

(B.) Marriage.

The Secretary to Government is empowered to perform the ceremony of marriage under the provisions of the Weihaiwei Marriage Ordinance, No. 9 of 1903, and in his office all marriages of Europeans are registered.

(C.) Probates.

The Secretary to Government acts as Registrar under the Probates Ordinance (No. 7 of 1904). Probate was granted in two cases during 1904.

V.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

In spite of the varied nature of his secretarial, financial and other duties, the work of the Secretary to Government lies chiefly among the Chinese, who number about 150,000 scattered over a territory of nearly 300 square miles. The people are remarkably friendly, peaceful, and well-disposed towards the British Government, as they would be towards any Government that treated them fairly. But like all Chinese they are fond of litigation, and as they can now indulge their passion for this pastime at a small fraction of the cost to which they were accustomed under the Chinese régime it will be readily understood that the work of settling civil disputes among so numerous and scattered a population is no light task for one European official, if the work is to be done thoroughly and conscientiously. As soon as the finances of the territory can stand an additional strain I am strongly of opinion that the magistrate—or Hua Wu Ssu as he is known by the Chinese—should be relieved of all his other miscellaneous duties and should devote his whole energies to his magisterial functions and to his duties as intermediary between the higher British authorities and the Chinese population: in other words, that the offices of Secretary to Government and Magistrate should be separated. The tendency is for the non-magisterial duties of the Magistrate to encroach more and more upon the time which he can devote to the settlement of civil and criminal cases: a fact which a comparison of the revenue returns for the past three years should help to make clear. If the Magistrate could spend at least half his time in travelling through the territory and holding his court at various centres, it would enable him to dispose of the majority of civil cases in a far more satisfactory manner than is possible when he is also required to sit daily at the receipt of custom in Port Edward and to hold himself in readiness to discharge miscellaneous duties as Registrar and as Government Secretary. The information elicited by a personal visit to the scene of a village dispute often throws an entirely new light upon the merits of the case, and in more instances than one I have found it necessary in the interests of justice, after a personal visit to the locality, to reverse former decisions based merely upon evidence brought before me at my official yamên in Port Edward. I venture to lay stress on this point, for it seems to me highly desirable that our Chinese subjects should be made to see not only that an English Court is incorrupt, but that its decisions—allowing for human fallibility—are rigidly just.

One of the most remarkable features of the government of Weihaiwei is the entire absence—setting aside Liukungtao and Port Edward—of a police force. So far from this resulting in anarchy or lawlessness, it appears to have the opposite tendency, for the territory is exceptionally free from crime of a serious nature. An obvious comment might be that the crime exists but owing to the absence of the proper machinery is not discovered: but this is an erroneous criticism, for the victims of crime rarely fail to bring their complaints to the Magistrate, and of the cases that remain, few escape the vigilance of the Detective Inspector. Among several reasons which might be given for this satisfactory state of matters, perhaps the most important are the modified patriarchal system under which the vast majority of the people still live and die, and the entire absence of the ferocious clan feuds which are so ugly a characteristic of the southern provinces. The country is too poor to tempt immigrants, and lands seldom change hands except among relatives. Farms are often mortgaged, but nearly always subsequently redeemed. The villages are generally named after families that have lived in them for many centuries. Sun Chia T'an is the village of the Sun family; Ch'i Chia T'an is the village of the Ch'i family; and so on with most of the villages in the territory. Title-deeds and tombstones all reveal the same tale, the landowners are everywhere the direct or collateral descendants of the people who tilled the same fields in the days of the Sung or the Ming dynasty. A curious result of this is the manner in which individuals identify themselves with their own ancestors. "I bought this land and now the Liu family are trying to steal it from me," complains a petitioner. "When did you buy it?" remarks the Magistrate. "In the fourth year of Yung-Chêng," says the petitioner, and sure enough his title-deed bears the date of 1727. Nearly every man has his few acres of arable land and his share in the common pasture land; every one is responsible to someone else for his correct behaviour, and all owe some obedience to the elders of his house or the village headman or *ts'un tung*. At present the villages of Weihaiwei are to a certain limited extent, so far as their domestic affairs are concerned, like so many little self-contained republics, each with its own ancestral temple, its theatre, its "commons" and its president or headman. Every individual is bound by rigid unwritten law to conform to the will of the *maior et sanior pars* and to fulfil his duties to the community even if they involve his own discomfort. Recently I had to decide a case in which an individual was accused by his fellow-villagers of refusing to subscribe towards the engagement of a travelling theatrical company. He admitted that he was in the wrong, and promised to contribute his full share forthwith. There is thus a clear sense of mutual responsibility, and a general obligation to co-operate for common ends. There are many points in common between the mediaeval village communities and burghal associations of Europe and the present village communities of North China, but the analogy must not be pushed too far. The absence of the seignorial or manorial system in China is alone sufficient to vitiate any such comparison. Still less correct is it to regard the Chinese village as possessing a corporate unity. Even in Europe the evolution of the "juristic person" was an exceedingly slow process, and it is not likely that we shall find the idea of corporations or *personæ fictæ* amid the heterogeneous elements of village life in China, where there are no professional lawyers to interpret indefinite social facts by the light of definite legal fictions. Yet the germs of the theory of corporate unity may perhaps be found in the prevalent system of guilds, in the common habit of identifying a man with his ancestors and with his own brothers and cousins, and in the centripetal forces that tend to prevent any individual from severing his connection with, or disowning his responsibility for, other members of his own family or phratria. It may be found, too, in the idea of unity which during life obliges a man to merge his own will in that of his father or elder brother, and after death associates him for ever with both ancestors and descendants in the system of ancestral worship.

When all the inhabitants of a village are bound together by ties of blood-relationship, as is the case with the villages of Weihaiwei, the bonds of family life and the bonds of village life are one and the same; and the senior representative of the senior branch of the family holds as a rule a double responsibility: as the head of the family he is the natural arbitrator or judge in cases of domestic strife or petty crime, and as headman of the village he is held directly responsible by the Government for the good conduct of his "clan." It is true that in practice the headman is not always the senior representative of the senior branch of the family. The position of the headmen is recognised by the Chinese Government, and in many districts they are nominated by the District Magistrate who has also full power to dismiss them for incapacity or misconduct. If the senior family is passed over, however, it is generally because one of its members has misconducted himself or because its wealth and social influence have passed to another branch. In theory the headman may be appointed by the District Magistrate or he may be elected by the people: in practice he may fall into the position by virtue of his wealth, personality or social prestige. In the case of the villages of Weihaiwei the headmen may be said to hold their position by combination of all these titles. My predecessor, in his Report for 1902, wrote somewhat disparingly of these venerable persons. "On the whole," he said, "I do not think the headmen a very capable or influential body. Over and over again cases have been referred to them to settle and report, and the answer has been that they are unable to settle and report." Now when it is remembered that the cases brought to the Magistrate are most often just those which the headmen have already failed to settle, and that the headmen themselves are very often personally interested in the success of one party to a lawsuit as against the other, it will be seen that to refer cases back to them again is a rotatory process that is bound to bring one back to the point from which one started. But in other ways the headmen are of great assistance to the Government, especially in the collection of the Chinese land-tax and in communicating to the people of their villages the terms of Government notices and proclamations. They receive no pay either from the Government or from their fellow-villagers: but they are granted by their own people small commissions for their trouble in collecting the land-tax and for settling minor disputes which are not brought before the magisterial tribunal. They also frequently preside at the feasts given by the parties to law-suits that have been settled "out of Court." In criticising the "headman" system, then, it is as well to remember that the headmen were not invented by the British Government, nor have their functions undergone material alteration since the British occupation. The headmen are a result of the natural evolution of Chinese village life, and the solidarity of that village life as it exists in this part of China would be severely shaken by their removal. The inevitable result would be the gradual strengthening of centrifugal forces now held well in check, the decay of the sense of mutual responsibility which is derived from both law and custom, and a growth of individuality which in rural China would still be dangerous and premature. The introduction of an expensive police force would then become necessary, and no village in our territory would thank us for the innovation.

As compared with the inhabitants of Fuhkien or Kuangtung provinces, the peasants of Shantung are deplorably ignorant and illiterate. Even the headmen are generally unable to read, or have forgotten the few "characters" they ever learned, and the village schoolmasters are rarely able to write good classical Chinese. The want of education is accompanied too frequently by an amiable lack of intelligence: amiable, because so smilingly acknowledged. "My husband is wrong in the head" remarks a female plaintiff who wants to win the magisterial sympathy, "and really I am not much better myself." As is so frequently the case in Eastern countries, the children are often far brighter and more intelligent than their parents: and young boys are frequently brought into Court to help their elders to explain themselves. They will never openly admit that they have had a good harvest, because they fear that even a British Government will not resist the temptation to increase the land tax. But when not engaged in litigation or in family disputes their lives are generally peaceful, uneventful and probably happy. They have the advantage of living in a healthy climate, and their splendid physique and the great age to which they often live prove that their normal condition is not one of ceaseless hardship and privation. For weeks at a stretch, at the sowing time and the two annual harvests, every adult and child is busy in the fields. In the long and bitterly cold winter nights they sit on their k'angs, huddled together for the sake of warmth, while during the day they issue out of doors to collect fuel and manure, or stand in their boundary-ditches to watch the ponies and hounds from Port Edward chasing the hare over their ancestral acres. Three times a week they wend their way with heavily laden mules to the Weihaiwei market, leaving the women at home to mend the clothes and commence quarrels that will end in law-suits.

R. F. JOHNSTON,

Secretary to Government and Magistrate,
Weihaiwei.

APPENDIX II.

(c) SUMMARY OF REVENUE.

Head.	Estimated. 1904–1905.	Actual. 1904–1905.	
	$	$	c.
1. Licences and Internal Revenue	13,670	32,848	69
2. Fees of Court	2,836	4,853	55
3. Rents of Government Property, Land and Houses.	40,770	41,330	67
4. Interest	1,574	3,030	99
5. Miscellaneous	150	8,261	83
Total	59,000	90,325	73

(a) SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE.

Head.	Estimated. 1904–1905.	Actual. 1904–1905.	
	$	$	c.
1. Commissioner's Establishment	22,392	22,645	47
2. Secretary to Government's Establishment ...	9,430	9,700	03
3. Police and Gaol	12,868	14,792	62
4. Medical and Sanitary	14,017	12,094	00
5. Public Works Department	6,591	3,145	84
6. Public Works	82,000	61,521	07
7. Miscellaneous Services	42,914	39,219	79
Total	190,212	163,118	82

APPENDIX III.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN for the YEAR 1904.

1904.	Barometer.				Temperature.						Rain or Snow.	
	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Mean for the Month.	Range.	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Range in the Month.	Mean of all Highest.	Mean of all Lowest.	Mean daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount collected.
January	30·722	30·100	30·403	·622	47·	11·	36·	32·	20·	12·	7 (snow)	0·20
February	30·450	29·978	30·232	·472	49·	15·	34·	38·	23·	15·	3 (snow)	0·09
March	30·530	29·900	30·163	·630	53·	20·	33·	41·	29·	22·	3	0·50
April	30·400	29·550	30·086	·850	62·	31·	31·	52·	41·	11·	5	1·41
May	30·080	29·750	29·920	·330	68·	42·	26·	61·	51·	10·	3	0·67
June	30·050	29·590	29·840	·460	84·	56·	28·	76·	63·	13·	4	0·85
July	30·000	29·600	29·803	·400	84·	61·	23·	76·	66·	10·	17	20·82
August	30·080	29·600	29·886	·480	89·	64·	25·	81·	69·	22·	3	1·50
September	30·250	29·890	30·042	·360	87·	53·	34·	81·	63·	18·	3	0·00
October	30·540	29·932	30·230	·608	81·	37·	44·	70·	49·	21·	4	0·50
November	30·600	29·900	30·263	·700	73·	24·	49·	61·	34·	27·	7 (4 snow)	2·40
December	30·600	29·930	30·315	·670	65·	13·	52·	46·	25·	21·	9 (4 snow)	3·05
Mean	30·358	29·810	30·098	·548	70·	35·	34·	59·	44·	16·	68	31·98

J. GREER BLACK,
Major, R.A.M.C.

APPENDIX IV.

MEDICAL REPORT ON PORT EDWARD, WEIHAIWEI, FOR THE YEAR 1904, BY MAJOR J. GREER BLACK, R.A.M.C.

Population, Births, Deaths, etc.

It was noted in the Report for 1903 that, as no exact census had been taken of the population, and there was no registration of births and deaths amongst the native population, it was not possible to frame statistics on these points. This still obtains.

Amongst the European population during the year there were three marriages and one death (from immaturity at birth and bronchitis).

Prevalence of Sickness, etc.

The total number of attendances for medicine and treatment at the Civil Hospital and Dispensary during the year has been 4,241.

This is an increase of 543 over the number for the previous year.

The new home of the hospital is an improvement on the former ones, and has been amply sufficient for the small number of cases requiring admission, the Chinese, if possible, preferring to live at home and attend daily for treatment.

The patients admitted provide their own food, unless too poor to do so. In the latter case it is provided at the expense of the Government.

Steps have been taken to publish amongst the Chinese the fact that medicines and medical treatment are absolutely free.

Two houses near the village of Chu Tao (about three miles from Port Edward) have been used as an isolation hospital for small-pox cases. They are suitable for the purpose, but the distance from Port Edward makes medical supervision difficult, and it is unfortunate that, at present, no suitable building can be found at a more reasonable distance.

Three cases of small-pox were under treatment during the year—one was a Japanese refugee recently arrived from Port Arthur, and the other two Chinese. All "contacts" were inspected and, if necessary, vaccinated, and no spread of infection could be traced. The source of infection of these three cases was uncertain, but it is believed that small-pox was rather prevalent in the territory—either from the native indifference to the disease, or a wish to avoid isolation and disinfection; only a few cases came under notice. The Japanese case most probably brought the infection from Port Arthur. The Japanese community is rather circumscribed here, and any other case occurring amongst them would have been known.

Two native villages and the native city of Weihaiwei were placed out of bounds for the troops at different periods of the year, on account of the existence of small-pox.

There were three deaths in hospital during the year:—

1 from Dysentery (Japanese),

1 from extensive bone disease and old age,

1 from nephritis.

The month of July has the largest number of attendances—512. This is closely followed by May and August—each over 400.

SANITARY CONDITION.

The sanitary condition of Port Edward is good, and is still being improved. Improvements continue on the roads, drains, and native houses, and other necessary points have been taken into consideration for next year's estimates. The dairies and laundries—considering that they are only converted Chinese houses—are in good condition, and recommendations for improvement have been carried out, but it would be better to have new buildings on improved plans, either at Colonial expense, Colonial advance, or under special privileges.

GENERAL DISEASES.

Number, 604—an increase of 140.

Small-pox, 3 (referred to under Prevalence of Sickness, &c.)—moderately severe, all recovered.

Measles, 1—mild, source of contagion unknown.

Alcoholism, 2—in Chinese.

Anæmia, few cases, mild.

S. C. Fever, Malarial Fever (imported), Rheumatism, a few cases, each mild.

Dysentery, a few cases, mild, except one case in a Japanese which terminated fatally.

Venereal disease was somewhat more prevalent than last year, which is probably accounted for by the influx of refugees from Port Arthur.

No cases of Plague, Dengue, Diphtheria, or Enteric Fever.

DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

Number 35, a decrease of 44.

Neuralgia and Headache were again the most prominent. One case of Epilepsy and one case of Hydrocephalus noted.

DISEASES OF THE EYE

Number 168, a decrease of 88.

Conjunctivitis, Diseases of the Cornea, and Diseases of the Eyelid, again make up almost the entire number of cases.

DISEASES OF THE EAR.

Number 38, an increase of 25. Principally Disease of the External Meatus—all mild.

DISEASES OF THE NOSE.

Number 4, same as last year—all mild.

DISEASES OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.

Number 38, a decrease of 17. Principally Disordered Action of the Heart—all mild.

DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.

Number, 104, an increase of 7. Principally Bronchitis and Asthma. Three cases of Phthisis, which disease seems to be rather unusual here. No deaths.

DISEASES OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.

Number, 305, an increase of 61. Principally Diseases of Mouth and Throat, Dyspepsia, Diarrhœa, Constipation, Piles, and Fistula in ano.

One case of Cancrum Oris. No deaths.

DISEASES OF THE LYMPHATIC SYSTEM.

Number 163, an increase of 113. Nothing special to note.

DISEASES OF THE URINARY SYSTEM AND MALE GENERATIVE ORGANS.

Number 128, an increase of 32.

One death from Nephritis. Nothing else worthy of note.

FEMALE DISEASES

Number 809, an increase of 484. Nothing of any clinical importance.

DISEASES OF THE ORGANS OF LOCOMOTION.

Number 135, an increase of 53. Myalgia, Diseases of Joints and Tendons were most common.

One death from extensive Disease of Bone in an old man.

DISEASES OF THE CONNECTIVE TISSUE.

Number 435, a decrease of 85. Inflammation and Abscess only.

DISEASES OF THE SKIN.

Number, 653, an increase of 20. Eczema, Boils, and Ulcers make up half the number. A few cases of Chilblains and Carbuncle, a small increase in the number of Parasitic Affections of the Skin, especially in Scabies.

LOCAL INJURIES.

Number 513, a decrease of 128. Principally minor wounds, burns and scalds.

Three cases of Simple Fracture.

POISONS.

Number 24, an increase of 5.

Phosphorus Poisoning, 17—distributed amongst nine months of the year.

Opium Poisoning, 2—in April.

Petroleum Poisoning, 1—in July.

Croton Oil Poisoning, 1—in August.

Snake Bite, 3 (species unknown). No deaths

ANIMAL PARASITES.

Number, 85, an increase of 19. Principally Taenia Solium and Ascaris Lumbricoides. No deaths.

OPERATIONS.

One case, in which the hand was severely injured by the explosion of a metal tube used as a gun at the Chinese New Year, was put under an anæsthetic, and two fingers were saved, which are now useful.

The others were all of a minor character.

VACCINATION.

Twenty-five children were brought to the hospital in April and May for vaccination. Result, all successful.

J. GREER BLACK,
Major, R.A.M.C.,
Acting Colonial Surgeon.

MEDICAL REPORT OF DR. HICKIN ON THE ISLAND OF LIU KUNG.

I.—GENERAL REVIEW.

The experience of this year confirms the impressions first formed as to the extreme salubrity of this place. During the year there was no epidemic disease, except a few cases of measles in the early spring. These cases were of a very mild type. They were limited entirely to Chinese. They were almost exclusively confined to residents in the East village—a Chinese hamlet situate about three-quarters of a mile east of the European settlement.

Small-pox.

One case was imported by the Navy in the spring, isolated and cured without any further extension.

Scarlet Fever.

Three cases were also imported here and treated with a similar result.

Summer Visitors.

These on arrival here sometimes experience some malaise or illness, due to the change from the hot, damp, southern climate, to the cooler northern climate here. Two children arrived who had been very seriously ill with "summer complaint." They made a good and rapid recovery here.

During the past year, no *resident* has suffered from any prolonged illness, with two exceptions, viz., a case of heart disease, and one of phthisis, but both of these were originally contracted elsewhere. Except for trivial ailments, no other resident has come under medical treatment at all during the year.

II.—GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL FOR CHINESE.

1,702 cases were treated during the year. The majority of these were dispensary patients and were derived from residents on the island. All cases are treated free, but those who reside in the hospital are required to make their own arrangements for food.

Vaccination.

Small-pox has been proved to occur in towns and villages in the dependency, consequently effort was made to vaccinate the Chinese residents on the island.

This proved quite a successful measure. Vaccination is no innovation to the Chinese in this part of China. Very many of them have already been vaccinated in childhood by native vaccinators. It is, however, found that they will not come forward voluntarily and be vaccinated at a hospital, but are quite willing to undergo it when the vaccinator goes from house to house. This makes vaccination a long and tedious business. It is hoped, however, to train natives to vaccinate and to send them throughout the territory during the coming year.

III.—THE GAOL.

There are on the average about seventy prisoners in the gaol. They are inspected daily by the medical officer. Any complaint of ill-health is at once inquired into, and any illness is promptly treated. The health of the prisoners is remarkably good. It is a rare event to have any prisoner on the sick list.

The physique of the prisoners generally improves to a marked degree on the regular diet and work of the gaol. Inspector Whittaker who has charge of the gaol takes considerable pride in this department of his many duties. He sees that the prisoners are suitably clad, and that their garments are kept clean and in good order, and that each prisoner gets a weekly bath. The good health of the prisoners is largely due to his viligance in seeing to these matters, and also in seeing that the prisoners are kept from undue exposure to bad weather when they are working outside the gaol.

There were two deaths during the year, but both of these were the result of opium smoking. The advanced opium smoker, is liable to get a painless kind of diarrhœa, which no medicine will cure. The most careful dieting is equally futile in my experience. Recovery does take place in rare cases, but it is the exception and not the rule.

IV.—SANITATION.

This work is superintended by Inspector Whittaker and Sergeant Dawson. Great credit is due to them for the efficient work that has been done in the past year. Only those who are conversant with the details of this work can appreciate the constant vigilance that is necessary to maintain a proper degree of cleanliness. The coolies are ever ready to dump the contents of their buckets in any and every place but the right one the moment the inspector's back is turned.

In the way of improvements, although much has been done, much still remains to be done. Many houses are in bad repair and need pulling down. Many of the smaller shops are too small to be sanitary.

It is highly desirable to have the houses and streets in the East village re-arranged upon a definite plan, so as to secure light and air to each occupier, and to do away with all narrow alley ways.

It is equally important to transfer the Chinese shops to the East village, so as to gradually form a settlement for Chinese remote from the European quarter.

A new bath house for Chinese will be erected during the coming year.

New laundries are likewise on the agenda list for 1905:

One hundred vessels were boarded under the quarantine regulations during the summer months.

V.—SULPHUR BATHS.

These baths were open to the public in the early part of the year. They are beautifully fitted up for Europeans in the Japanese style of architecture. The temperature of the baths can be regulated to suit the individual by the addition of cold water. The effect of the baths if not taken too hot, is remarkably invigorating, and the skin feels delightfully smooth and supple.

They want well advertising.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL for CHINESE, LIU KUNG TAO.

Return of Admissions during, 1904.

—	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Total.	Remarks.
I.—GENERAL DISEASES.				
Small-pox	—	1	1	Imported.
Measles	31	--	31	
Malarial Fever	2	—	2	
Febricula	12	2	14	
Enteric Fever	—	1	1	Imported.
Mumps	12	1	13	
Beri beri	1	—	1	Imported.
Syphilis	54	2	56	
Rheumatism...	25	—	25	
Anæmia	12	—	12	
Debility	3	—	3	
II.—LOCAL DISEASES.				
Nervous System	24	—	24	
Eye Diseases	176	1	177	
Ear "	18	—	18	
Circulatory System ...	6	2	8	
Respiratory "	175	1	176	
Digestive "	281	4	285	
Lymphatic "	12	—	12	
Urinary "	6	1	7	
Generative "	19	4	23	
Cutaneous "	668	2	670	
Bone diseases	12	9	21	
Teeth diseases	51	1	52	
Injuries	51	9	60	
Tumours	—	2	2	
Poisons	8	—	8	
Total	1,659	43	1,702	
III.—OPERATIONS. ...	79	14	93	
IV.—VACCINATIONS. ...	99	—	99	
V.—DEATHS.	—	4	—	

ESTIMATED POPULATION OF LUI KUNG TAO, 1904.

Europeans resident on Island	156
Chinese resident (males)	1,696
„ „ (females)	424
	2,276

Births from January 1st to December 31st, 1904—

European (males)	1
Chinese „	3
„ (females)	—
	4

Deaths from January 1st to December 31st, 1904—

European (males)	2
Chinese „	14
„ (females)	4
	20

These estimates are approximate only. The Chinese are not accustomed to registrations.

HERBERT J. HICKIN,
M.B., C.M. (Glasgow), L.M. (Dublin).

APPENDIX VI.

WEIHAIWEI TRADE REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1904.

In view of the general state of uncertainty as to the future of the Port, the statistics for 1904 may fairly be considered very satisfactory. There was 30 per cent. more shipping than in 1903—a very large increase in imports and a fair increase in exports. No figures are available for junk-borne traffic, or for that of the small steamers trading with Chefoo and Dalny, the figures given in Tables 3 and 4 being for imports and exports by steamers with foreign agents, but it is known that large quantities of various classes of goods were imported and exported by Japanese steamers.

An Emigration Depôt, with accommodation for 2,000 coolies, has been erected here, but is at present lying idle, pending a decision as to whether coolies may be shipped from Weihaiwei to South Africa. When this point is settled there should be a large increase in the local trade of the Port, as probably most of the coolies would invest on the spot at least a portion of the advances which they are to receive before sailing.

SHIPPING.

Exclusive of Admiralty colliers, Government transports, and several small steamers trading between this port and Chefoo, 315 steamers passed through Weihaiwei in 1904, as against 242 in 1903, 146 in 1902, and 115 in 1901. Towards the end of the year a considerable number of small Japanese steamers passed through the port, trading with Chefoo and Dalny. No record of them was kept, but this has been started from 1st January this year.

MAILS.

Having now the figures for a complete year, it is satisfactory to note that the English mail was delivered in the average time of 36 1-16 days from London, which goes to prove the efficacy of the mail contract.

IMPORTS.

A considerable portion of the increase is due to the Russo-Japanese war, but leaving out part of the import of such articles as flour, foreign stores, fresh vegetables, sugar, rice, candles, soap and wines, there is still a satisfactory increase all round, notably in kerosine oil, cotton yarn, sugar, cement and coal.

GINSENG.

Soon after the war started a large shipment of this article was sent here for safety, but was afterwards re-exported.

EXPORTS.

The figures would have been larger, but that some piculs, 2,500 of ground nuts and ground nut seeds, which were ready for shipment in December, did not actually leave until this year, and therefore will only appear in the 1905 returns. It seems probable that these exports of raw native produce will expand, but there is practically no export of manufactured goods as yet.

ERNEST E. CLARK.

Weihaiwei,
March, 1905.

TABLE No. 1.

SHIPPING.

Port	Arrivals from			Departures to		
	1904.	1903.	1902.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Shanghai... ...	137	119	91	119	101	46
Chefoo	144	103	44	152	113	91
Tientsin	4	4	2	8	3	4
Chinwangtao ...	6	5	1	4	—	—
Newchwang ...	—	2	—	8	8	1
Port Arthur ...	1	—	—	—	1	1
Dalny	1	—	—	—	2	—
Tsintau	9	2	—	9	3	—
Swatow	3	1	—	1	—	1
Hong Kong ...	2	3	4	9	7	1
Corea	4	—	—	3	1	—
Japan	4	3	4	2	3	1
Total... ...	315	242	146	315	242	146

TABLE 1—*cont.*

Tonnage and Nationality of Steamers.	1904.		1903.		1902.	
	No.	Net. Registered Tons.	No.	Net Registered Tons.	No.	Net Registered Tons.
British ...	296	310,430	233	237,998	140	147,443
German ...	2	2,000	2	1,688	—	—
Norwegian	1	988	—	—	—	—
Chinese ...	14	3,171	4	3,076	2	2,068
Japanese ...	2	1,006	3	2,178	4	2,298
Total ...	315	317,595	242	244,940	146	151,809

Above tables are exclusive of Admiralty colliers, Government transports, and several small steamers trading between Chefoo and this port.

TABLE No. 2.

MAILS.

Under the mail contract with the China Navigation Company, Limited, 26 English and 26 French Mails were delivered at Weihaiwei during 1904 in the following times:—

Days from London to Weihaiwei.	English Mail.		French Mail.	
	1904.	8 months from 1st April, 1903.	1904.	8 months from 1st April, 1903.
33	—	—	—	1
34	5	5	—	1
35	6	4	—	1
36	5	6	1	3
37	5	1	5	4
38	2	—	7	4
39	3	1	6	—
40	—	—	3	1
41	—	—	2	1
42	—	1	1	1
44	—	—	1	—
Total ...	26	18	26	17
Average number of days in transit.	$36\frac{1}{13}$	$35\frac{7}{9}$	$38\frac{1}{18}$	$37\frac{1}{4}$

TABLE No. 3.

EXPORTS.

Description.	Classifier.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Sassen	Picul .	272·45	74·00	105·00
Ground nuts	"	9,832·89	10,847·30	918·00
" seeds	"	2,799·80	475·73	—
" oil	"	22·40	—	—
Beans	"	654·60	—	196·00
Beancake	"	80·00	—	—
Salt fish	"	1,437·44	1,392·86	10·50
Dried fish	"	1·40	—	—
Vermicelli	"	—	—	92·90
Bones	"	—	—	105·00
Lime	"	—	—	16·80
Metals, old	"	—	133·00	313·00
Cow hides	"	—	47·00	—
Lard	"	18·55	95·81	—
Silk pongees	"	3·83	1·50	—
Silk waste	"	2·50	—	—
Compoy	"	—	·60	—
Dates, red	"	222·30	102·00	—
Fruit and vegetables, fresh ...	"	46·80	—	—
Aerated waters	Pkgs.	35	—	—
Furniture	"	—	—	6
Sundries (unenumerated) ...	"	252	192	96
Ginseng (re-exported) ...	Value.	$673,000	—	—
Foreign stores " ...	Pkgs.	428	374	431
" wines " ...	"	185	1,428	—
Hardware " ...	"	—	10	—
Explosives " ...	"	—	3	—
Machinery " ...	"	1	36	—
Timber " ...	Pieces.	—	3,912	—
Animals, live " ...	"	8	8	—

TABLE No. 4.

IMPORTS.

Description.	Classifier.	1904.	1903.	1902
Oil, kerosine, American ...	Gallons.	98,950	50,350	32,750
" " Russian	"	14,000	12,000	—
" Wood	Pkgs.	410	120	—
" Ground nut	"	—	32	—
Flour, American	Piculs.	11,511·02	5,211·90	5,700·00
" Native	"	30.264·37	—	—
Cotton yarn and piece goods ...	"	4,327·00	2,133·00	1,570·00
Sugar, refined	"	13,198·90	4,243·02	4,125·00
" candy	"	370·09	—	—
Paints, assorted...	Pkgs.	272	230	245
Indigo and other dyes	"	823	346	229
Hardware	"	6,560	427	966
Machinery	"	864	147	—
Metals	Piculs.	351·11	—	—
Timber	Pieces.	27,533	626	4,359
Window glass	Boxes.	87	103	48
Candles	"	2,737	329	63
Soap	"	3,638	944	352
Wines and spirits, &c.	Pkgs.	12,699	5,014	7,381
Aërated waters	"	880	—	—
Tobacco, cigars, cigarettes ...	"	482	162	96
Foreign stores, tinned provisions	"	18,372	9,990	16,636
Fruit, vegetables, fresh ...	Piculs.	8,890·35	3,103	—
Rice	"	3,345·00	1,207·00	—
Furniture	Pkgs.	194	141	656
Bamboo brooms	"	2	151	—
Explosives	"	315	313	—
Matches	"	155	50	—
Gunny bags	"	141	99	—
Coal, Japanese and Chinese ...	Tons.	3,783	2,160	2,031
Animals, live	Pieces.	16	29	—
Sundries, unenumerated ...	Pkgs.	1,684	1,096	882
Cement	Piculs.	21,907·49	10,476·57	—
Treasure	Value.	$372,000	$608,600	—
Copper cash	"	$4,830	—	—
Ginseng	"	$715,000	—	—
Bricks	Pieces.	507,618	—	—

No Government Stores are included in the above figures.

APPENDIX VII.

POSTAL REPORT BY MR. DUNCAN CLARK, POSTAL AGENT.

1. I have the honour to forward for Your Honour's information the following report on the working of this agency for the year ending 31st December, 1904.

STAFF.

Liukungtao Office ...	1 European clerk
	1 Assistant Chinese clerk.
	2 Postmen.
Port Edward Office ...	1 European clerk.
	1 Assistant Chinese clerk.
	2 Postmen.
	2 Couriers.

EUROPEAN MAILS.

2. Twenty-six English mails were received during the year; average time from London 36 days. Twenty-six mails arrived by French mail steamer; average time from Europe 38 days. The value of stamps and postal orders sold during the year amounted to $23,337·63.

3. The number of mails despatched by steamer for Shanghai, Hong Kong, &c., and Europe were 402, composed of 759 bags, &c., which, besides ordinary letters, consisted of 2,094 parcels and 4,287 registered letters.

4. The number of mails received from the above ports were 469, in 2,225 bags, &c., which included, besides ordinary letters, 1,757 parcels and registered mail matter.

5. One hundred and fifty-six mails were sent overland to Chefoo, and 154 received. The arrivals and departures of the overland mail average three mails a week. Average time taken on the journey, 24 hours.

6. The beginning of February witnessed the closing of the Siberian mail route, which was such a great boon to business people and others at this and other ports of North China. Letters from London by this route were received here within 22 days.

7. The offices of the Chinese Post Office were withdrawn from this territory on the 1st April, since which date all the postal business of this territory has been carried on by the British Post Office, with the exception of mails for the few foreigners in the interior which are forwarded by the Chinese Agency in Weihaiwei City.

D. Clark,

Postal Agent.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
427	Lagos	1903
428	Bahamas	1903–1904
429	Gold Coast, Northern Territories	1903
430	Mauritius	"
431	Seychelles	"
432	Barbados	1903–1904
433	Southern Nigeria...	1903
434	Fiji	"
435	Straits Settlements	"
436	Grenada	"
437	Northern Nigeria...	"
438	Jamaica	1903–1904
439	Malta	"
440	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1902–1903 & 1903–1904
441	British Guiana	1903–1904
442	Trinidad and Tobago	"
443	St. Lucia	"
444	Basutoland	"
445	Leeward Islands	"
446	St. Vincent	"
447	Bermuda	1904
448	St. Helena...	"
449	Falkland Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone	Rubber.
29	Ceylon...	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Islands	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1905.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 487.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1905.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 450.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1906.

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No. 487.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 450.)

THE COMMISSIONER to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
28th April, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1905.

I have, &c.,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

FINANCIAL.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $105,934, as compared with $90,415 during the previous year. The expenditure during the year amounted to $146,000, as compared with $162,282, the expenditure of the previous year.

The following are the heads of Revenue and Expenditure for last year, as compared with those of the previous year:—

Revenue.

Head.	1904–1905.	1905–1906.
	$	$
Licences and Internal Revenue	32,849	55,872
Fees of Court	4,853	3,746
Rents of Government Property, Land, and Houses.	41,330	41,624
Interest	3,031	3,280
Miscellaneous	8,352	1,412
Total	90,415	105,934

Expenditure.

Head.	1904–1905.	1905–1906.
	$	$
Commissioner's Establishment	22,702	21,666
Secretary to Government Establishment ...	9,697	12,367
Police and Gaol	14,824	12,254
Medical and Sanitary	12,105	14,574
Public Works Department	3,150	2,868
Public Works	61,439	39,138
Miscellaneous Services	38,365	42,995
Total	162,282	145,862

The total revenue and expenditure for the last five years is as follows:—

Years.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	$	$
1901–1902... ...	22,220	121,877
1902–1903... ...	35,456	102,044
1903–1904... ...	58,586	165,873
1904–1905... ...	90,355	162,282
1905–1906... ...	105,934	146,000

Grant-in-Aid.

The deficit each year has been met by a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds, which has been as follows during the past five years:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1901–1902	11,250
1902–1903	12,000
1903–1904	9,000
1904–1905	6,000
1905–1906	3.000

Accounts.

Mr. Phelips, Local Auditor of Hong Kong, visited Weihaiwei and audited the accounts regarding the keeping of which he reported favourably.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

In Appendix I. is given a list, which has been compiled by Mr. E. Clark, of Messrs. Lavers, Clark & Co., of the imports and exports during the last four years. The imports show a decrease during the last year in native flour, hardware, soap, wines and spirits, foreign stores, fresh fruit, vegetables, and rice. These decreases are due partly to the cessation of hostilities in this part of the world and partly to the reduction of the British fleet in these waters, to which is attributable also the decrease in the value of treasure imported.

Cotton yarn, sugar, dyes, and metals show a satisfactory increase.

There was a falling off in the export of ground-nuts, salt fish, and other articles; but salt and rice show a marked increase.

Mining.

Fourteen prospecting licences were issued during the year. The Weihaiwei Gold Mining Company, Limited, with a capital of $300,000, has during the year been operating a 20-stamp mill with a capacity of 2,500 tons a month at the Kin Tsu Ling Mine. The ore averages about 5½ dwt. per ton, 25 per cent. free milling. Concentrates are shipped to San Francisco for treatment. The Company employs nine white men and 400 Chinese. The mine is at present in a stage of development and the prospects are regarded as fairly encouraging.

Fruit-Growing and Afforestation.

Mr. Gibbons, the expert fruit grower sent out from home, arrived at Weihaiwei at the beginning of last year after having paid a visit to the German Colony of Tsingtao, where he was treated with great courtesy, and the Treaty Port of Chefoo. His visit to the latter place was of especial interest so far as fruit-growing is concerned, as it has been for many years a centre for fruit and as the conditions of soil and climate there are almost the same as those of Weihaiwei. As a result of his experience here during the year and of a second visit to Chefoo, Mr. Gibbons has no doubt whatever that fruit culture at Weihaiwei, conducted on proper lines, should prove most successful. The climate of this territory is much in its favour, for the weather does not prevent the trees from cropping, as is the case in so many other countries. Frost ends completely some time prior to the blooming period, the air is dry, and there are no spells of cold, heavy rains to damage the bloom and prevent a set of fruit. All the deciduous fruits and vines flourish in Chefoo and in this neighbourhood. The Chinese of this territory have hitherto grown chiefly apricots, pears, and vines. The apricots and pears are poor, common varieties, but the cropping capabilities of the trees afford evidence of what the better kinds may be expected to do. Vines produce good bunches and ripen their fruit well as is shown on the Island of Liu Kung, where they have been cultivated, and in the extensive vineyards at Chefoo. If vines were properly cultivated here so as to produce good table grapes, there seems no reason why they should not find a ready sale in Shanghai and other neighbouring ports.

Fruit trees of numerous varieties were obtained from home and arrived early in April. As was to be expected, they had grown somewhat on the journey, which sapped their vitality to a certain extent and made them more difficult to establish than if they had remained completely dormant. But notwithstanding this drawback and the dry winds and hot suns experienced before the rainy season commenced, the trees as a whole did well. The apples and pears nearly all survived, and all the other kinds of trees, such as cherries, plums, peaches, and nectarines, that established themselves have made a satisfactory growth and look very promising. An orchard has been planted to test the merits of the different varieties so as to obtain a clear idea of their value.

What is required to make fruit-growing a success at Weihaiwei is the investment of capital in the enterprise. The inhabitants of this territory are small landholders, who require their land for ordinary crops and have not been accustomed to devote much of their ground to the culture of fruit. But if a company with sufficient capital were formed and a fairly large area of land purchased for growing fruit on proper lines, it seems pretty certain that a profitable export trade could be established to Shanghai and other ports. It is hoped that when the Government has demonstrated, by the experiments now being made with fruit trees of various kinds, that Weihaiwei is a favourable centre for growing fruit, private enterprise will be encouraged to establish a trade in fruit.

Various kinds of trees and shrubs were obtained last year from Japan, to test their value for this climate. Some of them promise well, others not; but it is too early yet to form a decided opinion as to the merits of each particular kind. Small quantities of other kinds of trees and shrubs are being obtained this year from various sources, as well as seeds of a good many varieties of trees, shrubs, and flowers.

Some native trees were planted along the sea front and have done fairly well. An avenue of willows was also planted along the coast road and has thriven.

Pine seeds, to raise trees for covering the hills, were sown on the Island and have proved a success, but at Port Edward seeds of the same kind sown in a sheltered valley, after having germinated well, were nearly all destroyed by the hottish, dry, south winds in May and June. A much larger quantity of pine seeds will be sown this year, the great portion of which has been collected locally at small cost.

The hardier kinds of evergreen trees and shrubs, so far as they have been tried, have proved quite hardy here, but the foliage of most of them becomes much browned by the cold winds by the time mid-winter has arrived. This remark also applies to the native cypress, which grows into a large tree, and to a lesser extent to the fir trees on the hills.

It appears fairly safe to assume that all deciduous trees and shrubs, and herbaceous flowers, which are quite hardy at home, will prove equally hardy here. The few roses already grown indicate that they will thrive very well. Carnations have also proved quite hardy, but are affected in some cases by the heat of summer. Many kinds of annuals do exceedingly well, indeed better than at home.

SHIPPING.

In Appendix II. will be found the returns of shipping.* These returns, which have been compiled by Mr. E. Clark, are divided into two classes. The first class refers to ocean-going steamers with European agents, and the second class to small coasting steamers, the agents of which are natives. Returns of the first class have been kept since 1902. A record of the second class was started for the first time last year.

---

* Not printed.

An examination of the returns of steamers of the first class shows that exclusive of Admiralty colliers and Government transports, which are not included in the returns, 291 steamers—representing a tonnage of 321,005 tons—entered this port during 1905, as compared with 315 steamers, with a tonnage of 317,595 tons during 1904.

Of smaller coasting steamers 271 entered the port during 1905, with a tonnage of 52,859 tons.

The total number of steamers entering the port during last year was 562, representing a tonnage of 373,914 tons.

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were introduced after having been approved:—

1. The Private Lands Resumption Ordinance.
2. The Jury Ordinance.
3. The Shipping Dues Ordinance.
4. The Prepared Opium Ordinance.
5. The Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance.
6. The Banishment and Conditional Pardons Ordinance.
7. The Oral Examination of Prisoners Ordinance.
8. The Offences against the Person Ordinance.
9. The Births and Deaths Ordinance.
10. The Chinese Spirits Ordinance.

EDUCATION.

Most of the larger villages throughout the Territory possess schools, maintained by the villagers, in which the pupils have been taught the Chinese classics. The pupils of these schools were allowed to compete at the Chinese examinations, and this naturally acted as a stimulus to more ambitious students. But the Chinese examinations have been abolished and a new system of education with graded schools has been introduced into China. This change in the old system of education in China will necessitate a modification in the schools in this Territory in order to bring them into line with the new system adopted in China. When this change has been effected, it is hoped that the chance of a career in their own country will be given to Chinese residents in this Territory by granting them the privilege of admission into the higher grade schools of China in place of the right to compete at the examinations, formerly enjoyed by them. This question is at present under consideration, and it is hoped that it may be solved in such a manner as will give satisfaction to the Chinese without rendering necessary any large expenditure on the part of the Government.

In addition to the village schools, there are two mission schools for boys, in which the pupils are taught English in addition to Chinese—one of these, called the Anglo-Chinese School, is carried on by the Rev. Mr. Perry, of the Anglican Mission; the other is managed by Dr. Case, of the Unconnected Protestant Mission.

The average attendance of these schools during the year was 16 and 21, respectively.

There is also a school for Chinese girls at Port Edward, under the charge of Mrs. Case, in which 20 girls are taught.

On the Island a free school has been established by Mr. Duncan Clark, in which Chinese are taught English and Chinese, the attendance at which averaged during the year about 64.

The Government Free School, established in 1904 at Port Edward, in which English and Chinese are taught, has become so popular that it has been necessary to restrict the number of pupils to sixty pending consideration of the general question of education in this Territory and arrangements for more suitable buildings as school premises.

The Weihaiwei School, under its Headmaster Mr. Beer, which aims at a standard of education similar to that of the average Grammar school in England, was first opened in January, 1901, when there were four day scholars, and the school premises consisted of one room. Since then a new building has been erected, capable of receiving 40 pupils. The number of pupils in attendance at the school last year amounted to thirty-three. Only pupils of European or American parentage are received. The progress made by the school since it was first established shows that it supplies a want. The health enjoyed by the boys is excellent. During a period of five years only two cases of infectious or preventable disease have occurred and it is not certain that they were not imported.

The establishment of a school for European girls has been considered, but no definite steps have yet been taken in that direction. There can be no doubt that Weihaiwei is admirably suited for such an institution.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

CRIME.

As in previous years, cases of serious crime have been comparatively rare. Only three cases were committed for trial by the High Court. In the Magistrate's Court convictions were obtained in 387 cases on the Mainland and in 123 cases on the Island of Liukung. An analysis of the nature of the cases tried is given in Appendix III.

Of the three cases committed for trial to the High Court two were manslaughter cases. The first resulted from the death of an old man in one of the outlying villages, and the origin of the matter was an old-standing family quarrel. Two persons were charged with being concerned in the old man's death, and both were convicted and sentenced to seven years' penal servitude in the gaol at Hong Kong. The second case of manslaughter arose out of circumstances which in this part of China are fortunately very rare, though more common in the south. The inhabitants of two villages had a lawsuit about the ownership of a few acres of land, to which both the chief families in the villages laid claim. The case was still *sub judice*, when representatives of both sides met on the land itself and had a violent quarrel. This ended in a free fight, in the course of which about ten men were more or less severely wounded and had to be brought into the Civil Hospital at Port Edward. One of the wounded men died. A charge of murder was at first made out against the man who had given the deceased his death-blow, but the charge was subsequently reduced to manslaughter, and the accused was sentenced to one year's imprisonment. The only other case tried by the High Court was one of the kidnapping of a woman. Four men were charged with this offence, and three were convicted.

Cases of suicide have as usual been somewhat numerous. The neighbours or families of persons who have destroyed themselves are obliged to report the circumstances without delay in order that the Magistrate may hold the usual enquiry. The people, however, are particularly averse to such enquiries, especially if they involve post-mortem examinations or mutilation of the corpse, and they often prefer to run the risk of punishment rather than allow the corpse of the deceased to be touched by a surgeon's knife.

CIVIL SUITS.

In civil suits the Magistrate sits in a judicial capacity, and in all such cases the High Court has concurrent jurisdiction. No civil cases, however, were heard by the High Court itself in 1905, nor have there been any appeals from the Magistrate's judgment.

The great majority of civil suits are between natives, and are generally settled in accordance with Chinese law and custom. The cases deal with an infinite variety of subjects and are often of a most intricate nature. 223 such cases were dealt with by the Magistrate during 1905, but these do not include numerous unrecorded cases in which the Magistrate acts as arbitrator.

GAOL.

The number of prisoners confined in the gaol in 1905 amounted to 116. Seven long-sentence prisoners were sent to the gaol in Hong Kong with the consent of that Colony. The prisoners have been well behaved and have given little or no trouble; their health has been excellent, even trivial ailments being extremely rare. A small hospital has been erected within the gaol, where prisoners can, if necessary, be isolated.

HOSPITALS.

Admission is free to the Government Civil Hospitals on the Island and at Port Edward, but in-patients provide their own food. The in-patients treated during the year on the Island were 44 and at Port Edward 72. There were on the Island 2,043 out-patients and at Port Edward 3,754 attendances. These figures show that the hospitals are gradually gaining confidence from the Chinese. To increase such confidence, it is proposed to train four natives of the Territory in Western medicine.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

The health of the residents and visitors has been exceedingly good. With one exception only, there has been no case of serious disease during the year. Even minor ailments are uncommon. Among the Chinese contagious disease is infrequent, and when it does occur, is mild in character. The hospital statistics (*see* Appendix IV.) show only four cases of measles during the year. There were fourteen cases of parotitis which were of a very mild type. No case of small-pox originated in the Territory, although there was an outbreak of that disease in the city of Weihaiwei. Due precautions were taken to prevent its importation into the territory, and free vaccination was carried on by Government vaccinators on the Island, at Port Edward, and in the villages. On the Island 2,200 persons were vaccinated and in the Territory 5,374. In the present stage of development of this Territory it is difficult to enforce compulsory vaccination, and as an accurate registration of births is not possible vaccination cannot be wholly satisfactory. Men refuse vaccination for fear of sore arms preventing them from working; women are disinclined to bare their arms before a stranger; and children are afraid. However, a satisfactory commencement has been made, and it is hoped that year by year the present objections may be gradually overcome.

SANITATION.

At Port Edward the sanitary condition is good. An abattoir has been built, and there is a well-arranged public market. The present sanitary conditions of the dairies, bakeries, and laundries require improvement. The water supply is from wells. An analysis of the water has shown it to be of satisfactory quality, but as a precaution it should be filtered.

On the Island new scavenging arrangements have come into force and have worked well. The dumping of rubbish on waste ground which was so objectionable in the past has ceased.

A block of half-ruined houses has been removed, which has opened up one of the worst areas on the Island.

Five new laundries have been built with detached dwelling houses. The old laundries are small and dark, and generally unsatisfactory. It is proposed that more laundries be erected in the future if the present accommodation is found insufficient.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

In Appendix V. will be found the meteorological return for 1905. The highest reading of the barometer during the year (30·660) was in the month of December, and the lowest (29·336) in July. The highest temperature (93 F.) was recorded in July, and the lowest (12 F.) in February. Rain fell on 108 days, the total annual rain and snowfall being 40·23 inches, as compared with 31·98 inches in 1904. During the month of July there was a rainfall of 12·93 inches. Snow fell on 15 days, 5 days during the first quarter of the year and 10 days in November and December.

POSTAL.

During the year fifty-two mails arrived from Europe—twenty-six by British mail steamers and twenty-six by French mail steamers. The average time in transit for the former was thirty-three days and for the latter thirty-six. The total number of mails received during the whole year was 590, comprising besides ordinary correspondence 2,229 parcels and registered correspondence.

The number of mails despatched during the year amounted to 334, containing besides ordinary letters 3,271 registered letters and 1,205 parcels.

Overland mails to Chefoo were sent and received regularly throughout the year, averaging three a week and 24 hours' time in transit. The total receipts through the sale of stamps and postal orders amounted to $14,760.38, as compared with $23,337.63 in 1904. This falling off in receipts is due to the reduction of the British fleet in China and to the short period of its stay here during 1905, as compared with the previous year.

NAVY AND ARMY.

The fleet, under Vice-Admiral Sir Gerard Noel, did not remain so long at Weihaiwei as in 1904, but whilst it was here the behaviour of the bluejackets was as admirable as it always has been.

The Chinese Regiment have as usual behaved excellently. Steps are now being taken to disband that regiment, the smartness and efficiency of which are a credit to all the officers and non-commissioned officers who have had a share in training the men.

J. H. Stewart Lockhart,

Commissioner.

Government House,

Port Edward,

Weihaiwei,

28th April, 1906.

APPENDIX I.

IMPORTS.

Description.	Classifier.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Oil, kerosine, American	Gallons.	76,500	98,950	50,350	32,750
„ „ Russian	„	—	14,000	12,000	—
„ Wood	Pkgs.	290	410	120	—
„ Ground-nut ...	„	—	—	32	—
Flour, American ...	Piculs.	12,909·75	11,511·02	5,211·90	5,700·00
„ Native ...	„	1,124·63	30,264·37	—	—
Cotton yarn and piece goods.	„	7,597·42	4,327·00	2,133·00	1,570·00
Sugar, refined ...	„	14,726·23	13,198·90	4,243·02	4,125·00
„ candy ...	„	—	370·09	—	—
Hemp and hemp skins.	„	407·91	—	—	—
Paints, assorted ...	Pkgs.	162	272	230	245
Indigo and other dyes.	„	1,447	823	346	229
Hardware	„	372	6,560	427 }	966
Machinery	„	52	864	147 }	—
Metals	Piculs.	1,146·27	351·11	—	—
Timber	Pieces.	5,779	27,533	626	4,359
Window glass ...	Boxes.	208	87	103	48
Candles	„	5,618	2,737	329	63
Soap	„	2,532	3,638	944	352
Wines and spirits, &c.	Pkgs.	2,952	12,699	5,014	7,381
Aërated waters ...	„	683	880	—	—
Tobacco, cigars, cigarettes.	„	522	482	162	96
Foreign stores, tinned provisions, &c.	„	8,128	18,372	9,990 }	16,636
Fruit and vegetables, fresh.	Piculs.	3,413·91	8,890·35	3,103 }	—
Rice...	„	1,815·00	3,345·00	1,207·00 }	—
Furniture	Pkgs.	180	194	141	656
Bamboo brooms ...	„	102	2	151	—
Explosives	„	273	315	313	—
Matches	„	17	155	50	—
Gunny bags ...	„	107	141	99	—
Coal, Japanese and Chinese	Tons.	4,278	3,783	2,160	2,031
Animals, live ...	Pieces.	2	16	29	—
Sundries (unenumerated).	Pkgs.	2,031	1,684	1,096	882
Cement	Piculs.	6,353·25	21,907·49	10,476·57 }	Not specified.
Treasure	Value.	$26,000	$372,000	$608,600 }	
Copper cash ...	„	—	$4,830	—	—
Ginseng	„	—	$715,000	—	—
Bricks and tiles ...	Pieces.	83,000	507,618	—	—

No Government Stores are included in these Tables.

EXPORTS.

Description.	Classifier.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Sassen	Piculs.	159·70	272·45	74·00	105·00
Ground-nuts ...	"	5,219·30	9,832·89	10,847·30	918·00
" seeds	"	2,877·24	2,799·80	475·73	—
" oil	"	—	22·40	—	—
Beans	"	—	654·60	—	196·00
Beancake	"	—	80·00	—	—
Salt fish	"	385·91	1,437·44	1,392·86	10·50
Dried fish	"	—	1·40	—	—
Vermicelli	"	—	—	—	92·90
Bones	"	253·50	—	—	105·00
Lime	"	—	—	—	16·80
Metals, old	"	157·39	—	133·00	313·00
Ore	"	33·75	—	—	—
Cow hides	"	—	—	47·00	—
Lard	"	—	18·55	95·81	—
Silk pongees ...	"	4·25	3·83	1·50	—
Silk waste	"	—	2·50	—	—
Compay	"	—	—	·60	—
Dates, red	"	—	222·30	102·00	—
Fruit and vegetables, fresh.	"	—	46·80	—	—
Salt	"	35,715·00	—	—	—
Empty bottles ...	Pkgs.	1,148	1,070	750	1,149
Aërated waters ...	"	287	35	—	—
Furniture	"	—	—	—	6
Sundries (unenumerated).	"	385	252	192	96
Ginseng (re-exported).	Value.	—	$673,000	—	—
Treasure	"	$108,286	—	—	—
Rice (re-exported)...	Piculs.	9,585·00	—	—	—
Flour, American (re-exported).	"	262·50	—	—	—
Foreign stores (re-exported).	Pkgs.	692	428	374	431
Foreign wines (re-exported).	"	269	185	1,428	—
Hardware (re-exported).	"	300	—	10	—
Explosives (re-exported).	"	—	—	3	—
Machinery (re-exported).	"	—	1	36	—
Timber (re-exported).	Pieces.	—	—	3,912	—
Animals, live (re-exported).	"	18	8	8	—

APPENDIX III.

ABSTRACT OF CASES.

High Court.

Offences.	Charged.	Convicted.
Manslaughter	3	3
Conspiracy to illegally imprison, &c.	4	3
Total	7	6

Magistrate's Court (Mainland).

Offences.	Convictions.
Assault, common	31
Banishment, returning after	2
Breach of the peace	21
Bribery and similar misdemeanours	2
Burglary	7
Commit suicide, attempt to	2
Conspiracy to defraud	4
Counterfeit coin, selling	1
Cruelty to animals	3
Damaging trees	2
Disorderly behaviour	39
Dogs—Breach of Regulations	19
Drunk and disorderly	9
False charges, preferring	33
False pretences, obtaining money, &c., by	7
Fire-arms, discharge of, to danger of public	1
Furious riding	1
Gambling (keeping common gaming house)	17
Gambling (on street)	4
Indecent conduct	1
Insulting behaviour before magistrate	13
Junk, anchoring in prohibited waters	19
Larceny	16
Laundries, unregistered	5
Litigation, stirring up	2
Malicious injuries to property	10
Menaces, demanding money by	2
Milk, adulteration of	2
Mules turned loose on highway	5
Opium—Breach of Regulations	13
Carried forward	293

Magistrates's Court (Mainland)—cont.

Offences.	Convictions.
Brought forward	293
Police constable, misconduct as	4
Police constable, assault on and obstructing	3
Police constable, assuming character of	2
Post office, opening or delaying message	1
Property, unlawful possession of	3
Quarrying without licence	6
Robberies, armed	4
Rogues and vagabonds	7
Sanitary regulation, breach of	22
Ship's cargo, furnishing untrue particulars of...	9
Ship's lights, neglecting to exhibit	1
Sleeping in market	1
Squeaking wheelbarrows	6
Stolen goods, receiving	2
Trespass on Crown land	5
Women and Girls Protection Ordinance, offences under ...	14
Wrecking	4
Total	387

MAGISTRATE'S COURTS (ISLAND OF LIUKUNG).

Offences.	Convictions.
Assault, common	9
Assault with intent to do bodily harm	1
Cruelty to Animals	3
Disorderly behaviour	1
Dogs, breach of regulations regarding	2
Gambling	11
Larceny	10
Milk, adulteration of	2
Nuisance, committing	10
Opium, breach of regulations	1
Property, unlawful possession of	2
Rogues and vagabonds	3
Sampan Regulations, breach of	43
Sanitary Regulations, breach of...	17
Shipping dues, evasion of	1
Soliciting for immoral purposes...	2
Stolen goods, receiving	4
Wild birds, snaring	1
Total	123

R. F. JOHNSTON,
Magistrate.

APPENDIX IV.

CIVIL HOSPITAL (ISLAND).

STATISTICS FOR 1905.

Name.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Totals.	Remarks.
I.—GENERAL DISEASES.				
Small-pox ...	—	1	1	Imported from Territory.
Measles	4	3	7	Mild and uncomplicated.
Malarial Fever ...	6	—	6	Imported: malaria not endemic. The anopheles has not yet been seen here.
Febricula	10	—	10	All mild.
Mumps	14	6	20	Mild.
Syphilis	26	1	27	Type mild. 56 last year.
Parasites	125	—	125	All lumbricales. Pedicalosis omnipresent but medicines seldom asked for.
Rheumatism ...	83	—	83	Muscular and chronic. Type a mild one.
Anæmia	11	—	11	
II.—LOCAL DISEASES.				
Nervous System ...	45	1	46	Chiefly neuralgias.
Eye Diseases ...	195	2	197	Conjunctivitis and corneal affections.
Ear „ ...	19	—	19	Chronic deafness and suppurative.
Circulatory System	5	—	5	Nothing of special note.
Respiratory „	317	2	319	Mainly coughs and chronic bronchitis; asthma occasionally. Pneumonia and pleurisy absent.
Digestive „	250	1	251	Chiefly dyspepsias.
Lymphatic „	13	3	16	Suppurating and inflamed glands.
Generative „	18	1	19	Nothing of note.
Cutaneous „	705	10	715	Boils, chill-blains, eczema, psoriasis.
Carried forward	1,846	31	1,877	

CIVIL HOSPITAL (ISLAND)—*cont.*

Statistics for 1905—cont.

Name.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Totals.	Remarks.
Brought forward	1,846	31	1,877	
Osseous System ...	3	4	7	
Teeth diseases ...	64	—	64	Caries.
Injuries	87	6	93	Minor.
Poisons	3	—	3	2 opium, 1 mercury.
Opium smoking ...	—	1	1	
Total... ...	2,003	42	2,045	
III.—OPERATIONS.	38	3	41	All minor, chiefly the incision of boils and abscesses.
IV.—VACCINATIONS.	—	—	2,200	On Island only.

NOTE.—Enteric has not yet been noted as an endemic disease. Tuberculosis, very rare and mainly in Japanese who seem specially prone to it, and also in its most rapid forms.

H. J. HICKIN,
M.B. & C.M. (Glasgow) L.M. (Dublin).
Medical Officer.

CIVIL HOSPITAL, PORT EDWARD.

STATISTICS FOR 1905.

Name.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Totals.	Remarks.
I.—GENERAL DISEASES.	74	20	94	Principally rheumatism, simple continued fever, ague, and dysentery.
II.—LOCAL DISEASES.				
Nervous System ...	13	3	16	Apoplexy (2), paralysis (3), neuralgia (9), and mania (2).
Eye Diseases ...	23	10	33	Ophthalmia was the principal disease that came under observation.
Carried forward	110	33	143	

CIVIL HOSPITAL, PORT EDWARD—*cont.*

Statistics for 1905—cont.

Name.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Totals.	Remarks.
Brought forward	110	33	143	
Respiratory System	28	6	34	Mostly bronchitis; also pneumonia (3), and tubercle of lung (3).
Digestive „	90	3	93	Dental abscess, dyspepsia, and diarrhœa were the principal diseases.
Lymphatic „	7	—	7	All of a slight nature
Urinary „	2	1	3	1 case of Bright's disease and 2 cases of cystitis.
Generative „	33	12	45	No case calls for special mention.
Organs of Locomotion.	20	5	25	Principally myalgia; also cases of caries and necrosis of bone.
Connective tissue	21	4	25	Abscess and inflammation.
Skin Diseases ...	96	—	96	Mostly ulcers, boils, whitlow, and itch.
Injuries	43	6	49	Mostly burns and scalds, and wounds; 1 fatal case of fracture of the skull.
Poisons	10	2	12	Opium, matches, petroleum, and arsenic.
Totals ...	460	72	532	
III.—OPERATIONS.	7	9	16	Removal of small tumours, opening of abscesses; operations for phimosis, fistulous sinuses, and hœmorrhoids.
IV.—VACCINATIONS.	—	—	5,374	On the Mainland.

Deaths.—The following cases ended fatally:—1 fracture of skull, 1 dysentery, 1 cancer of stomach, 1 case of opium poisoning and 1 Bright's disease.

J. E. BROGDEN,
Major, R.A.M.C.,
Acting Medical Officer.

APPENDIX V.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN for the YEAR 1905.

1905.	Barometer.				Temperature.						Rain or Snow.	
	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Mean for the Month.	Range.	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Range in the Month.	Mean of all Highest.	Mean of all Lowest.	Mean daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount collected.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.								Inches.
January	30·400	29·900	30·171	·500	55°F.	13°F.	42°F.	44°F.	25°F.	19°F.	6 (3 snow)	1·82
February	30·400	30·120	30·304	·280	48°	12°	36°	34°	20°	14°	6 (snow)	0·15
March	30·580	30·050	30·332	·530	57°	21°	36°	47°	28°	19°	5 (1 snow)	1·72
April	30·350	29·622	30·094	·728	69°	30°	39°	56°	38°	20°	7	1·36
May	30·300	29·500	29·917	·800	90°	41°	49°	73°	50°	23°	7	2·39
June	29·984	29·542	29·809	·442	91°	53°	38°	82°	58°	24°	7	1·86
July	29·982	29·336	29·714	·646	93°	61°	32°	82°	66°	16°	20	12·93
August	30·134	29·640	29·872	·494	89°	62°	27°	84°	66°	18°	12	5·41
September	30·350	29·650	30·063	·700	89°	49°	40°	70°	60°	10°	10	5·61
October	30·450	30·000	30·175	·450	78°	37°	41°	68°	49°	19°	9	1·93
November	30·632	30·020	30·337	·612	73°	24°	49°	53°	35°	18°	4 (3 snow)	1·80
December	30·660	30·000	30·324	·660	56°	14°	42°	41°	27°	14°	15 (7 snow)	3·25
Mean	30·518	29·781	30·092	·570	74°F.	34°F.	39°F.	61°F.	43°F.	18°F.	°108	°40·23

° Total.

Port Edward, Weihaiwei,

J. E. BROGDEN, Major, R.A.M.C.
Acting Medical Officer.

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The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No	Colony.	Year.
459	Southern Nigeria	1904
460	Sierra Leone	”
461	British Solomon Islands	1903–1905
462	Malta	1904–1905
463	Grenada	1904
464	St. Vincent	”
465	Gold Coast	”
466	Barbados	1904–1905
467	Uganda Protectorate	”
468	Somaliland Protectorate	”
469	Trinidad and Tobago	”
470	Lagos	1904
471	Bahamas	1904–1905
472	British Central Africa	”
473	Mauritius	1904
474	Fiji	”
475	East Africa Protectorate	1904–1905
476	Northern Nigeria	1904
477	British Guiana	1904–1905
478	Leeward Islands	”
479	Bechuanaland Protectorate	”
480	Basutoland	”
481	Ceylon	1904
482	St. Lucia	”
483	Ashanti	1905
484	Bermuda	”
485	Hong Kong	”
486	St. Helena	”

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.
32	Do. Do.	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 533.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1906.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 487.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1907.

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No. 533.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 487.)

THE COMMISSIONER to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
14th May, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1906.

I have, &c.,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

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FINANCIAL.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $76,777 as compared with $105,934 during the previous year. The expenditure during the year amounted to $160,899 as compared with $146,120 the expenditure of the previous year.

The following are the heads of Revenue and Expenditure for last year, as compared with those of the previous year :—

Revenue.

Head.	1905–1906.	1906–1907.
	$	$
Licences and Internal Revenue	55,872	26,158
Fees of Court	3,746	4,136
Rents of Government Property, Land, and Houses.	41,624	42,933
Interest	3,280	2,284
Miscellaneous	1,412	1,266
Total	105,934	76,777

Expenditure.

Head.	1905–1906.	1906–1907.
	$	$
Commissioner's Establishment	21,671	20,699
Secretary to Government Establishment ...	12,367	11,870
Police and Gaol	12,254	14,337
Medical and Sanitary	14,574	12,501
Public Works Department	3,112	3,717
Public Works	39,195	43,730
Fruit and Forestry Department...	—	4,751
Miscellaneous Services	42,947	37,125
New Police Force...	—	12,169
Total	146,120	160,899

The total revenue and expenditure for the last six years is as follows :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	$	$
1901–1902... ...	22,220	121,877
1902–1903... ...	35,456	102,044
1903–1904... ...	58,586	165,873
1904–1905... ...	90,355	162,282
1905–1906... ...	105,934	146,120
1906–1907... ...	76,777	160,899

Grant-in-Aid.

The deficit each year has been met by a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds, which has been as follows during the past six years :—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1901–1902	11,250
1902–1903	12,000
1903–1904	9,000
1904–1905	6,000
1905–1906	3,000
1906–1907	4,500

WITHDRAWAL OF GARRISON.

The chief local event during the year was the disbandment of the Chinese Regiment, owing to the decision of the Imperial Government to remove all military forces except a few marines from Weihaiwei. The disappearance of that regiment is in many ways a great loss to this Territory. Its behaviour was always very good and the number of "black sheep" among the men was very small. Its smartness and efficiency fully confirmed the belief that under British officers a Chinaman can be made an excellent soldier, and the officers and non-commissioned officers who were responsible for the training of the men deserve great credit for the successful result of their training and discipline. Disbanded soldiers in China have not a good reputation. As they are generally turned adrift with nothing in their pockets, they are driven to find a living in a manner which frequently results in crime. When, therefore, the inhabitants of Weihaiwei learned that disbandment of the Chinese Regiment was about to take place, they not unnaturally became somewhat nervous and were afraid that many of the men, having no regular occupation, would remain in the Territory looking for work, and not finding any would resort to nefarious acts to eke out a living. But their fears proved groundless, for no trouble of any kind occurred. The men were treated liberally, having been granted a bonus of three months pay, and every assistance was rendered to them to enable them to reach their homes. Thanks are due to General Ventris, who was general officer commanding in North China: to Colonel Bruce and Captain Dent of the Chinese Regiment for the ready manner in which they met the wishes of this Government in carrying out the disbandment.

BUILDINGS HANDED OVER BY MILITARY.

By the removal of the military from Weihaiwei many buildings were placed at the disposal of this Government. Some of these the Government has been able to utilize as Government offices, a school, and a hospital, and others have been let. But there are still many buildings unoccupied of which it has not been possible to make any use, and for which no tenants have yet been found.

DISTRICT OFFICER.

The disbandment of the regiment necessitated the appointment of a district officer and an increase in the police. Mr. R. F. Johnston was appointed to the post of district officer. He resides in the heart of the Territory and is able to keep in close touch with the headmen who are responsible for the maintenance of good order in their villages. He also discharges the duties of a magistrate which saves people having to travel long distances to have their cases heard at Port Edward as was necessary when there was only one magistrate.

HEADMAN SYSTEM.

The headman system has been reorganized. The Territory has been divided into 26 districts, each district containing an average of 12 villages. To each district a district headman has been appointed who receives a small salary from Government and who is able to help the magistrates and district officer in the discharge of their duties by acting when necessary as an intermediary between them and the village headmen, and by keeping them informed generally regarding the affairs of the Territory. The district headmen are held responsible for the posting of all Government notices and for the registering of deeds of sale and mortgages in the villages in their districts. They are furnished with forms of deeds of sale and mortgages which are taken from counterfoil books kept in the office of the magistrate, and every quarter they have to account for the number of forms issued to purchasers and mortgagees of land. Mr. Johnston, the district officer, acts as magistrate in 17 of the districts while Mr. Walter, who returned from leave at the beginning of the year, continues to act as secretary to Government and magistrate for the Island and the remaining nine districts. This arrangement has so far worked very satisfactorily and is much appreciated by the people. Mr. Johnston resides in a central situation which enables him to reach quickly any portion of the districts in which he functions, whilst both magistrates are able to give more attention to the cases that come before them.

POLICE.

Before the disbandment of the Chinese Regiment the Police Force of the Territory amounted to 21 men, 9 of whom were stationed on the Island under Inspector Whittaker and 12 on the Mainland under Inspector Forcey. On the disbandment of that regiment the force was increased by the appointment of Colour Sergeant Crudge as Inspector, and by the enlistment as police of

36 men of that regiment who were specially selected and recommended by the officer commanding. Of the men enlisted eight are stationed in the Territory at the head quarters of the district officer, the remainder at Port Edward.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

In Appendix I. will be found a list, for the compilation of which I am indebted to Mr. E. Clark of Messrs. Lavers, Clark & Co., of the imports and exports for five years, 1902 to 1906. Imports during last year show a considerable increase in kerosene oil, yarn and piece goods, sugar, and dyes. The timber imported includes 18,209 logs, measuring 454,437 cubic feet, of Japanese soft wood, which is used by the Chinese for building purposes.

There was a large increase in the export of ground-nuts and ground-nut seeds. Ore and concentrates were shipped to San Francisco by the Weihaiwei Gold Mining Company, but the result was not so favourable as had been expected. Five shipments of gold, valued at $17,000, were made by the same company, and silver sycee shoes, valued at $24,360, and silver dollars to the amount of $264,000, were also exported.

The trade of Weihaiwei still remains small, and under present circumstances it is not possible to be sanguine regarding its future development.

MINING.

Thirteen prospecting licences were issued during the year. The Weihaiwei Gold Mining Company, Limited, not having found its operations satisfactory, has ceased working and is now in liquidation.

FRUIT-GROWING AND AFFORESTATION.

Fruit trees made satisfactory progress during the year but have not been long enough established to yield any large quantity of fruit. The only fruit obtained was a few varieties of apples, a small number of pears, and some nectarines and peaches. The apples were remarkable for their size and good in flavour. Experience so far seems to show that early and late varieties will prove most valuable. As late varieties appear to ripen earlier than at home, it is probable that trees from America will be most suitable for the climate of this Territory. The pears were good in flavour but were much affected by maggots. About 250 additional fruit trees of various kinds were planted during the autumn and it is hoped that it will ultimately be possible to produce fruit sufficient to demonstrate beyond doubt that Weihaiwei can be made a centre for growing fruit if capital be forthcoming.

A collection of grafted vines of both table and wine grapes and shoots for grafting the vine stocks previously secured were obtained from California. The grafting of the stocks proved very successful. They made excellent growth and showed no trace of mildew or insect disease. The few fig trees which have been planted show every sign of thriving well. An attempt has been made to interest the Chinese in fruit culture and they have purchased some fruit trees of various kinds.

A large quantity of pine seeds was sown and practically all germinated, but the losses among the seedlings were very great as only about 50,000 survived. The losses were due to the hot dry winds in May and June.

Seeds of mixed trees were sown but many proved failures. The most successful were *Acacia pseudo-acacia* : *Ailanthus glandulosa* (a local tree): *Laburnum* : *Cornus microphylla* : and *Gleditschia triacanthos*.

Of the various shrub seeds sown those that germinated and grew well were the common yellow broom : the white variety of broom : *Euonymus Europeus* and *Cercis sinensis*, the two last being local shrubs.

Of newly imported trees, the Lombardy and silver poplars grew excellently as did also red and white double-flowering thorns, *Prunus Pissardii* and *Prunus triloba*.

The planting of trees along roads was carried out on a small scale, the trees used being the plane, the pseudo-acacia, and the willow. All the trees so planted have done well.

Of flowering and ornamental shrubs Lilacs : *Styrax japonica* : *Pyrus japonica* : Golden elder : *Forsythia saspensa* : *Spiræa Thunbergii* : *Spiræa calosa alba* : and *Spiræa Reevesiana* all grew well. Experiments with imported roses proved very satisfactory, and several herbaceous flowers show every promise of being suited to the climate.

There is plenty of scope for the work of afforestation in the Territory of Weihaiwei, but so long as its financial position remains as at present it is not possible to undertake any scheme involving large expenditure.

SHIPPING.

During the year 1906, 473 steamers representing a tonnage of 363,202 tons entered this port as compared with 562 steamers, with a tonnage of 373,864 tons during 1905. These figures are exclusive of Admiralty colliers and Government transports.

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were introduced after having been approved :—

1. The Arms and Ammunition Ordinance, 1906.
2. The Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance, 1905, Amendment Ordinance, 1906.
3. The Banishment and the Conditional Pardons Ordinance, 1905, Amendment Ordinance, 1906.
4. The Lands and Buildings Tax Ordinance, 1906.
5. The Misdemeanours Punishment Ordinance, 1906.
6. The Infected Milk Ordinance, 1906.
7. The Gambling Ordinance, No. 7 of 1906.
8. The Arms and Ammunition Ordinance, 1906, Amendment Ordinance, 1906.
9. The Gambling Ordinance, 1906, Amendment Ordinance, 1906.

EDUCATION.

During the past year there has been a considerable increase in the attendance at the Government Free School, the average attendance having risen to 53 as compared with 21 at the end of the previous year. The staff of masters was increased to three and a general scheme of work was drawn up with a view of bringing the school into line with the "Hsiao Hsüeh T'ang" or lower middle schools now established in China through which boys pass into the middle schools ("Chung Hsüeh T'ang,"), and thus have a chance of a career in their own country. The Governor of Shantung has agreed that Chinese youths educated at Weihaiwei will be allowed to enter middle schools in China if they can pass the necessary entrance examination, as they formerly enjoyed the privilege of competing at the Chinese examinations, which have been abolished.

A small book depôt has been established by Government with the object of supplying schools in the Territory with the latest Chinese educational works at cost price. These books include elementary works on Chinese history and geography ; text books of arithmetic, books on elementary physics, English readers and atlases, and have so far been chiefly sold to pupils attending the Government school.

The school has been moved into a larger building, and the teaching of physical drill has been introduced as a subject, at the request of the boys themselves.

The average attendance at the two Mission Schools was 10 at the Anglo-Chinese School and 18 at Dr. Case's School. The average attendance at Mrs. Case's School for Chinese girls was 15. At the free school on the Island, established and supported by Mr. Duncan Clark, the average attendance was 43. Two of the pupils from this school were last year admitted into the Naval College at Chefoo as Naval Cadets.

The number of pupils in attendance last year at the Weihaiwei School amounted to 27. Mr. Beer, the headmaster, has erected a fine new building capable of housing 40 pupils on a very healthy site overlooking the sea. The boys attending the school seem to enjoy excellent health and to be peculiarly fortunate in escaping the diseases from which boys are so apt to suffer at school.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Crime.

It was feared in some quarters that the removal of the Chinese Regiment would result in an increase of crime, but these fears proved groundless. On the contrary crime, which has always been infrequent in this Territory, actually decreased and serious cases were rarer even than in former years. In the magistrate's Court convictions were obtained in 329 cases on the Mainland and 120 on the Island, as compared with 387 on the Island and 123 on the Mainland in 1905. An analysis of the nature of the cases is given in Appendix II.

Only one case was tried by the High Court—a charge of receiving stolen property. The accused was a European—an occurrence happily very uncommon here—and he was acquitted. A case of alleged manslaughter was tried by the magistrate under the direction of the High Court, in accordance with the provisions of the Weihaiwei Order in Council of 1901, with the aid of a Chinese Assessor. The case was tried at the scene of the alleged crime, but the evidence produced was so unsatisfactory and differed so entirely from the medical evidence that the charge of manslaughter was altered to one of assault, and the offenders were ordered to pay the funeral expenses of the deceased and a solatium to his family.

Cases of suicide were again somewhat numerous. No fewer than 10 cases came under the notice of the magistrate, and it is not improbable that other cases occurred but were not reported.

Six inquests were held during the year by the magistrate acting as coroner. Care has to be taken to hold an inquest only when absolutely necessary as the Chinese have a great dread of post-mortem examinations.

Civil Suits.

Only one civil case was tried by the High Court during the year. This was an action brought by the Government against Chinese to decide the ownership of certain lands and was of interest because of the question raised as to what law—the law of England or the lex situs (*i.e.* Chinese law) should be applied, and on account of the enunciation of the fact that under Chinese law sea beach and river bed incapable of cultivation is Government waste and belongs to the Crown. The magistrate has had to deal with a large number of civil cases regarding land disputes, mortgages, and family quarrels relating to marriage and adoption.

Gaol.

The number of prisoners sentenced to imprisonment during 1906 was 125, the daily average of prisoners in gaol being 23. The behaviour of the prisoners has been very good and their health excellent.

HOSPITALS.

The in-patients treated during the year on the Island numbered 24 and at Port Edward 136. There were on the Island 1,906 out-patients and at Port Edward 4,806, as compared with 2,043 and 3,754 in 1905.

The Civil Hospital on the Mainland has been moved into a building formerly in possession of the Military Authorities which is more commodious and in every way more suitable than the premises previously rented. Dr. Muat was appointed Medical Officer to take charge of the medical work on the Mainland, as the withdrawal of the troops involved the removal of the officer of the Royal Army Medical Corps who had previously discharged that work for this Government.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

As the hospital statistics (Appendix III) show, there has been little sickness during the year among either Europeans or Chinese. Infectious disease has been almost entirely absent. There were no cases of small-pox on the Island and but few in the Territory. Vaccination was carried on as in previous years; the number of vaccinations preformed was 3,064 on the Mainland and 223 on the Island. There was one case of measles and a few cases of mumps. Diphtheria made its appearance in three European families, and it is almost certain that the disease was imported though the exact source could not be traced. A house to house visitation proved the Chinese to be singularly free from sore throats and diseased tonsils at the time of the occurrence of the disease. Four patients were isolated for observation but no trace of diphtheria was detected. Inquiry in the Territory threw no light on its possible source.

Sanitation.

On the Island and at Port Edward the sanitary condition is good. At Port Edward new conservancy arrangements have been introduced and are working well. The dairies have been improved by having cement floors laid down. They are unfortunately situated in undesirable positions, but a new dairy is being erected on a suitable site. The public laundry has also been improved. One of the most congested portions of Port Edward has been opened up by pulling down several undesirable buildings and running a street through it.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

In Appendix IV will be found the meteorological return for 1906. The highest reading of the barometer (30·608) was in the month of November and the lowest (29·920) in July. The highest temperature (93 F.) was recorded in August and the lowest (10 F.) in January and February—Rain or snow fell on 90 days, the total annual rain and snow fall being 25·31 inches as compared with 40·23 inches in 1905 and 31·98 inches in 1904. During the month of August there was a rain-fall of 7·57 inches.

POSTAL.

During the year 53 mails arrived from Europe (26 English and 27 French mails). The average time in transit for the English mail was 35 days; for the French 39 days. The quickest English mail received arrived from London in 32 days. The number of mails received during the year was 779, comprising besides ordinary correspondence, 1,913 parcels and registered mail matter. The number of mails despatched during the year was 311 containing besides ordinary letters, 2,273 registered letters and parcels.

Overland mails to and from Chefoo were sent regularly throughout the year and averaged three mails a week.

The total receipts through the sale of stamps and postal notes amounted to $10,343.38 as compared with $14,760.38 in 1905.

NAVY.

Owing to the reduction in the British Fleet in China Weihaiwei is not so frequently or regularly visited by ships-of-war as used to be the case when the Fleet was larger. This naturally has a depressing effect on the business of this port which to a great extent depended on the presence of the Fleet for its prosperity.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,

Commissioner.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
14 May, 1907.

APPENDIX I.

EXPORTS.

Description.	Classifier.	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Sassen	Piculs	345·90	159·70	272·45	74·00	105·00
Ground-nuts	"	24,168·06	5,219·30	9,832·89	10,847·30	918·00
" seeds	"	13,505·00	2,877·24	2,799·80	475·73	—
" oil	"	19·00	—	22·40	—	—
Beans	"	350·10	—	654·60	—	196·00
Beancake	"	246·00	—	80·00	—	—
Salt fish	"	240·00	385·91	1,437·44	1,392·86	10 50
Dried fish	"	12·00	—	1·40	—	—
Vermicelli	"	38·00	—	—	—	92·90
Bones	"	301·62	253·50	—	—	105·00
Lime	"	—	—	—	—	16·80
Metals, old	"	137·10	157·39	—	133 00	313·00
Ore and Concentrates	"	4,663·42	33·75	—	—	—
Cow hides	"	—	—	—	47·00	—
Lard	"	—	—	18 55	95·81	—
Silk pongees	"	7·62	4·25	3 83	1·50	—
" waste	"	—	—	2·50	—	—
Compay	"	—	—	—	·60	—
Dates, red	"	123·42	—	222·30	102 00	—
Dried lily flower	"	101·75	—	—	—	—
Sessamum seeds	"	78·40	—	—	—	—
Fruit and vegetables, fresh	"	16·80	—	46·80	—	—
Salt	"	40,111·50	35,715·00	—	—	—
Native sauce	Pkgs.	230	—	—	—	—
Aerated waters	"	43	287	35	—	—
Furniture	"	3	—	—	—	6
Sundries (unenumerated)	"	404	385	252	192	96
Ginseng (re-exported)	Value	—	—	$673,000	—	—
Treasure "	"	$306,160	$108,286	—	—	—
Rice "	Piculs	95,517·00	9,585·00	—	—	—
Flour, American "	"	348·75	262·50	—	—	—
Foreign stores "	Pkgs.	15	692	428	374	431
Foreign wines "	"	233	269	185	1,428	—
Hardware "	"	—	300	—	10	—
Explosives "	"	—	—	—	3	—
Machinery "	"	3	—	1	36	—
Timber "	Pieces	—	—	—	3,912	—
Animals, live "	"	20	18	8	8	—

N.B.—No Government Stores are included in these Tables.

IMPORTS.

Description.	Classifier.	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Oil, kerosine, American	Gallons	101,550	76,500	98,950	50,350	32,750
" " Russian	"	—	—	14,000	12,000	—
" " Dutch	"	75,000	—	—	—	—
" wood	Pkgs.	510	290	410	120	—
" ground nut	"	—	—	—	32	—
Flour, American	Piculs	4,177·87	12,909·75	11,511·02	5,211·90	5,700·00
" Native	"	—	1,124·63	30,264·37	—	—
Cotton yarn and piece goods	"	15,173·32	7,597·42	4,327·00	2,133·00	1,570·00
Sugar, refined	"	17,747·90	14,726·23	13,198·90	4,243·02	4,125·00
" candy	"	368·00	—	370·09	—	—
Hemp and hemp skins	"	215·30	407·91	—	—	—
Paints, assorted	Pkgs.	136	162	272	230	245
Indigo and other dyes	"	3,831	1,447	823	346	229
Hardware	"	432	372	6,560	427	966
Machinery	"	57	52	864	147	
Metals	Piculs	207·35	1,146·27	351·11	—	—
Timber	Pieces	19,000	5,779	27,533	626	4,359
Window glass	Boxes	47	208	87	103	48
Candles	"	433	5,618	2,737	329	63
Soap	"	1,603	2,532	3,638	944	352

Imports—continued.

Description.	Classifier.	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Wines and spirits, &c.	Pkgs.	1,801	2,952	12,699	5,014	7,381
Aerated waters	,	196	683	880	—	—
Tobacco, cigars, cigarettes ..	"	358	522	482	162	96
Foreign stores, tinned provisions, &c.	"	4,411	8,128	18,372	9,990	16,636
Fruit and vegetables, fresh ..	Piculs	1,084·00	3 413·91	8,890·35	3,103	
Rice	"	92,732·40	1,815·00	3,345·00	1,207·00	
Furniture	Pkgs.	6	180	194	141	656
Bamboo brooms	"	304	102	2	151	—
Explosives	"	417	273	315	313	—
Matches	"	1	17	155	50	—
Gunny bags	"	347	107	141	99	—
Coal, Japanese and Chinese ..	Tons	3,004	4,278	3,783	2,160	2,031
Animals, live	Pieces	3	2	16	29	—
Sundries (unenumerated) ..	Pkgs.	772	2,031	1,684	1,096	882
Cement	Piculs	1,743·75	6,353·25	21,907·49	10,476·57	not specified.
Treasure	Value	$27,200	$26,000	$372,000	$608,600	
Copper cash	"	—	—	$4,830	—	—
Ginseng	"	—	—	$715,000	—	—
Bricks and tiles	Pieces	1,000	83,000	507,618	—	—
Soda ash	Piculs	660·00	—	—	—	—

N.B.—No Government Stores are included in these Tables.

APPENDIX II.

ABSTRACT OF CASES.

HIGH COURT.

Offences.	Charged.	Convicted.
Receiving stolen property	1	—
Manslaughter	2	—
Total	3	—

MAGISTRATE'S COURT (MAINLAND).

Offences.	Convictions.
Aiding and abetting prisoners to escape	3
Assault	25
Attempted abduction	3
Attempted bribery	1
Breach of anchorage regulations	10
Breach of cattle regulations	5
Breach of dog regulations	10
Carried forward	57

MAGISTRATE'S COURT (MAINLAND)—*continued.*

Offences.	Convictions.
Brought forward	57
Breach of opium regulations	15
Breach of wine regulations	6
Committing a nuisance	35
Contempt of court	15
Cruelty to animals...	4
Extortion	4
Gambling	55
Impersonation	4
Intimidation	2
Keeping disorderly house	6
Keeping unlicensed lodging house	2
Keeping insanitary premises	5
Quarrying without licence	6
Neglect of duty	12
Robbery	10
Theft	35
Trespass	6
Residing in territory without permission	6
Late payment house tax...	10
Non-reporting suicide	4
Miscellaneous	30
Total	329

MAGISTRATE'S COURT (ISLAND OF LIUKUNG).

Offences.	Convictions.
Assault, common	1
Burglary	1
Cruelty to animals	3
Disorderly house, keeping	3
Disturbance, creating	3
Dogs, breach of regulations regarding	2
Gambling	10
Indecent behaviour	1
Interfering with police	2
Larceny	17
Loitering	9
Nuisance, committing	3
Opium, breach of regulations	3
Pretences, obtaining by false	1
Sampan regulations, breach of	40
Sanitary regulations, breach of	14
Stolen property, receiving	4
Miscellaneous	3
Total	120

R. WALTER,
Magistrate.

APPENDIX III.

CIVIL HOSPITAL (ISLAND).

STATISTICS FOR 1906.

Name.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Totals.	Remarks.
I.—GENERAL DISEASES.				
Measles	1	1	1	7 last year.
Enteric fever ...	—	1	1	Imported from Territory.
Febricula	7	—	7	
Malarial Fever ...	2	—	2	Imported, not known on the Island.
Mumps	4	1	5	Mild and uncomplicated; 20 last year.
Rheumatism ...	106	2	108	Chronic and muscular.
Syphilis, primary...	4	—	4	56 in 1904, 27 in 1905.
„ tertiary...	9	—	9	
Fatty tumours ...	4	—	4	
Simple cyst ...	—	1	1	
Anæmia	9	—	9	
Parasites	127	—	127	Pediculosis 9, tape worm 1, the rest all lumbricales.
Poisons	2	—	2	Phosphorus from match heads.
II.—LOCAL DISEASES.				
Nervous System ...	6	—	6	Neuralgias.
Eye Diseases ...	253	—	253	Conjunctivitis principally, 4 iritis, 16 keratitis.
Ear „ ...	15	—	15	Nothing of note.
Circulatory System	10	—	10	Functional.
Respiratory „	186	—	186	Bronchitis acute and chronic asthma 25.
Digestive „	215	4	219	Largely dyspepsia, 19 diarrhœa, 7 dysentery but very mild in type.
Lymphatic „	5	—	5	
Generative „	21	2	23	
Cutaneous „	740	5	745	Abscess, boils, eczema, psoriasis 20, scabies 78.
Osseous „	13	3	16	Caries and necrosis.
Carried forward	1,739	20	1,758	

Civil Hospital (Island)—*cont.*

Statistics for 1906—cont.

Name.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Totals.	Remarks.
Brought forward	1,739	20	1,758	
Teeth diseases ...	94	—	94	Principally caries.
Injuries	73	5	78	Fracture of skull 1, fractures 2, nothing else of note.
Total... ...	1,906	25	1,930	
III. OPERATIONS.	—	—	47	All minor.
IV. VACCINATIONS.	117 Primary.	106 Secondary.	230	

H. J. Hickin,
M.B. & C.M. (Glasgow) L.M. (Dublin).
Medical Officer.

CIVIL HOSPITAL, PORT EDWARD.

Statistics for 1906.

Name.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Remarks.
I.—GENERAL DISEASES.			
Rheumatism	26	—	Chiefly chronic.
Anæmia	14	—	
Parasites	50	—	Round worms, &c.
Syphilis	17	—	
Febricula	24	—	
Malaria	2	1	
Cancer	2	1	Epithelioma.
Tubercle	2	1	Phthisis 2.
Erysipelas	1	—	
Carried forward ...	138	3	

CIVIL HOSPITAL, PORT EDWARD—*cont.*

Statistics for 1906—cont.

Name.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Remarks.
Brought forward ...	138	3	
Dysentery...	13	—	
Leprosy	—	1	Anaesthetic.
II.—LOCAL DISEASES.			
Nervous system	30	1	Epilepsy 5, mania 1, hysteria 1.
Circulatory system ...	16	3	
Respiratory „ ...	36	6	Pneumonia 2.
Digestive „ ...	78	4	
Lymphatic „ ...	4	—	
Generative „ ...	21	53	
Cutaneous „ ...	237	7	
Osseous „ ...	3	3	
Urinary „ ...	4	2	
Eye	59	9	Chiefly ophthalmia and ulcers of the cornea.
Ear	17	—	
Throat	15	5	
Nose	5	1	
Liver	—	2	Liver abscess 1.
Gangrene	—	1	
Tumours	2	—	
Connective tissue	41	4	
Teeth	20	—	
Injuries	56	30	Blasting accidents 8, gun 4.
Poisons	5	—	Nitric acid 1, matches 2, opium 2.
Totals	800	135	
III.—OPERATIONS ...	6	12	Amputations 4, empyema 2, liver abscess 1, removal of small tumours, &c.
IV.—VACCINATIONS...	—	3,064	

There were two deaths, one due to gangrene and the other due to multiple injuries.

W. M. MUAT, M.B.,
Medical Officer.

APPENDIX IV.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN for 1906.

1906.	Barometer.				Temperature.						Rain or Snow.	
	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Mean for the Month.	Range.	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Range in the Month.	Mean of all Highest.	Mean of all Lowest.	Mean daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount collected.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.								Inches.
January	30·500	30·040	30·345	·460	46°F.	10°F.	36°F.	35°F.	20°F.	15°F.	11 (snow)	2·41
February	30·512	30·012	30·240	·500	44°	10°	34°	34°	20°	14°	10 (9 snow)	0·46
March	30·494	29·644	30·163	·850	72°	14°	58°	48°	28°	20°	4 (2 snow)	0·33
April	30·290	29·798	30·048	·492	76°	30°	46°	63°	40°	23°	5	0·72
May	30·200	29·634	29·925	·566	89°	40°	49°	69°	51°	18°	6	3·30
June	30·060	29·560	29·797	·500	90°	52°	38°	81°	58°	23°	4	0·00
July	29·920	29·512	29·723	·408	90°	59°	31°	83°	64°	19°	9	3·75
August	30·100	29·570	29·842	·530	93°	60°	33°	84°	66°	18°	13	7·57
September	30·356	29·830	30·068	·526	83°	51°	32°	76°	58°	18°	10	1·23
October	30·468	29·972	30·034	·496	73°	40°	33°	67°	49°	18°	4	1·31
November	30·608	29·978	30·383	·630	63°	18°	45°	48°	31°	17°	7 (5 snow)	1·31
December	30·336	29·626	29·942	·710	56°	15°	41°	40°	25°	15°	7 (snow)	2·92
Mean	30·320	29·762	30·943	·522	73°F.	33°F.	39°F.	60°F.	42°F.	18°F.	°90	°25·31

° Total.

Port Edward, Weihaiwei.

W. M. MUAT, M.B.,
Medical Officer.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
502	Straits Settlements	1905
503	Gibraltar	”
504	Trinidad and Tobago	1905–1906
505	St. Lucia	1905
506	Mauritius	”
507	Southern Nigeria (Lagos)	”
508	Somaliland	1905–1906
509	Fiji	1905
510	St. Vincent	1905-1906
511	Sierra Leone	1905
512	Southern Nigeria	”
513	Basutoland	1905–1906
514	British Guiana	”
515	British Honduras	1905
516	Northern Nigeria	1905-1906
517	Bechuanaland Protectorate	”
518	Leeward Islands	”
519	East Africa Protectorate	”
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	”
522	Falkland Islands	”
523	Ashanti	”
524	Jamaica	1905–1906
525	Uganda	”
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	”
528	Bermuda	”
529	Gibraltar	”
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	”
531	Sierra Leone	”
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906–1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis ...	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate ...	Report on Kenia Forests.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 569

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 533.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

August, 1908.

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No. 569.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 533.)

The Commissioner to the Secretary of State.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei.
9th June, 1908.

My Lord,

I have the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1907.

I have, &c.,

J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Commissioner.

The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c.,
H.M.'s Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

1125 Wt 24282 8/08 D & S 32 33174

FINANCIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $80,331, as compared with $76,777 during the previous year. The expenditure during the year amounted to $173,331, as compared with $160,973 the expenditure of the previous year.

The following are the heads of revenue and expenditure for last year, as compared with those of the previous year:—

Revenue.

Head.	1906-7.	1907-8.
	$	$
Licences and Internal Revenue ...	26,158	30,769
Fees of Court	4,136	2,544
Rents of Government Property, Land and Houses	42,933	45,597
Interest	2,284	718
Miscellaneous	1,266	703
Total ...	76,777	80,331

Expenditure.

Head.	1906-7.	1907-8.
	$	$
Commissioner's Establishment ...	20,699	22,945
Secretary to Government Establishment	11,870	12,739
District Officer Establishment ...	3,228	7,575
Police and Gaol	23,277	24,688
Medical and Sanitary	12,501	13,890
Public Works Department ...	3,717	3,575
Public Works	43,730	36,647
Fruit and Forestry Department	4,751	5,118
Miscellaneous Services	37,200	46,154
Total	160,973	173,331

The total revenue and expenditure for the last seven years is as follows:—

Years.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	$	$
1901-2	22,220	121,877
1902-3	35,456	102,044
1903-4	58,586	165,873
1904-5	90,355	162,282
1905-6	105,934	146,120
1906-7	76,777	160,973
1907-8	80,331	173,331

The increased expenditure during 1907-8 was chiefly due to the cost of stores, taken over from the military authorities on the disbandment of the Chinese Regiment, having been defrayed during last financial year instead of during 1906-7.

Grant-in-Aid.

The deficit each year has been met by a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds, which has been as follows during the past seven years:—

Years.	Amount. £.
1901-2	11,250
1902-3	12,000
1903-4	9,000
1904-5	6,000
1905-6	3,000
1906-7	4,500
1907-8	10,000

The rise in the amount of the grant-in-aid was due to expenditure on account of an increased police force and the newly-created post of District Officer. But in this connection it should be borne in mind that by the disbandment of the Chinese Regiment, which was the reason for strengthening the police force and the creation of that post, a large saving of Imperial funds was effected.

Accounts.

Mr. Phelips, Local Auditor of Hong Kong, visited Weihaiwei and audited the accounts, on the keeping of which he reported favourably.

PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of any special importance were undertaken during last year. Particular attention was paid to roads, which were extended and kept in good condition.

Floods caused the collapse of three bridges, which have been repaired and strengthened.

A new Court, with quarters for staff and police, was erected at Wênch'üart'ang, to which place the District Officer had to move his headquarters when the Weihaiwei Gold Mining Company, which had kindly lent this Government a building, went into liquidation.

A landslip, caused by heavy rains, threatened the safety of the lighthouse at Flagstaff. The danger was removed by building a retaining wall.

LIGHTING.

The lighting of the Island and Port Edward has been very much improved by the erection of Lux lamps, which, while giving a good light, have proved easy to work and inexpensive.

POLICE.

The police were increased on the disbandment of the Chinese Regiment from a total of 21 with two European inspectors, to a total of 57 with three inspectors.

Nine policemen, with one inspector, are stationed on the Island of Liu Kung, and the remainder of the force at Port Edward and at the District Officer's headquarters.

All the police stationed on the mainland have been put through courses of musketry practice and field firing. The percentage of marksmen and first-class shots was satisfactory. Some of the police have also been trained in the use of a Maxim gun.

That such a small police force should be found sufficient for a territory the estimated population of which is 150,000 speaks well for the orderly nature of the Chinese who live here.

FIRE BRIGADE.

There was only one serious fire during the year, by which a row of godowns at Port Edward was burnt down, and as neither the buildings nor their contents were covered by insurance, the owners lost a sum estimated at $20,000. As a difficulty was experienced in finding coolies to help at this fire, a Volunteer Fire Brigade has been formed to co-operate with the police. It consists of sixty Chinese shop assistants and some of the Chinese members of the Civil Service, who have shown great regularity and keenness in attending the monthly fire practices.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

There were no signs of any general increase of trade during the year, and, as has been pointed out in previous annual reports, so long as present circumstances exist, commercial development of this territory is not possible.

The port is duty free and no Custom House exists. It is not possible, therefore, to give accurate official returns of such small trade as is carried on, and Mr. E. Clark, of the firm of Messrs. Lavers & Clark, who kindly supplied the lists of exports and imports which appeared in former reports, has not been able to furnish them this year.

The export of ground-nuts and ground-nut seeds well maintained the satisfactory increase of the previous year, freight being saved by the shipment of seeds without husks.

The figures for the export of ground-nuts and seeds during the last three years are as follows:—

—	1905.	1906.	1907.
	Piculs.*	Piculs.*	Piculs.*
Ground-nuts	5,219	24,168	12,294
Ground-nut seeds	2,877	13,505	25,320

* A picul = 133 lbs.

The growing of ground-nuts is rapidly increasing in the territory, and is proving very profitable.

About the same amount of oil was imported as in 1906, American oil showing an increase and Sumatra oil a decrease.

The export of salt fell off considerably as compared with the previous year.

Fruit-Growing and Afforestation.

Fruit cultivation in Weihaiwei has now been in progress long enough to prove that apples, pears, plums, grapes, gooseberries, and black currants can all be successfully and profitably produced.

With regard to apples, it has been found that, while most English varieties fail to keep, several American apples have kept very well. In particular, the Newtown Pippin keeps well into March, and its culture on a large scale should prove very profitable, as it could be shipped to markets more distant than Shanghai, possibly as far as Singapore.

Grapes ripened perfectly, and should prove to be one of the most profitable fruits, as it would give a quicker return than most other kinds.

Peaches and nectarines were small and disappointing, although the trees grew very well. This fruit may, however, improve when the trees are older.

Apricots cropped freely, but the fruit was small and nearly all spoilt by heavy rain.

Raspberries have not proved hardy, the canes having been all killed by the severe winter.

Figs also suffer from the cold, and in consequence the spring crop is lost.

There seems to be no doubt that Weihaiwei could be made a profitable centre for growing fruit, but there is no sign of either Europeans or Chinese being willing to come forward to invest capital here in fruit, or, indeed, in any other enterprise.

Afforestation was proceeded with on a small scale. As the plan of raising fir trees from seed had proved a failure, 150,000 one-year-old seedlings of *Pinus massoniana* were imported from Japan and have done well. About 2,000 firs raised by General Sir Arthur Dorward when Commissioner of this territory were planted out on the Island. Acacias, willows, and planes have been planted for avenues, and have all done well. The acacia in particular makes very free growth, and seems to be the most suitable tree for plantation and avenues.

The only two flowering and ornamental shrubs which have proved really useful, in addition to those mentioned in last year's report, are the *Sea Buckthorn* and *Pyracantha Lelandii.*

Of evergreens, the common green *Euonymus* and *Pittosporum* are the most useful. Laurels and other evergreens have proved failures.

Roses have grown and flowered well, and herbaceous flowers have proved successful.

Many seeds of local trees and shrubs have been collected, and propagation from stock of various shrubs is being steadily carried on.

The appearance of the hills could be much improved by afforestation, but this would necessitate tree planting on a much larger scale than can be afforded by a territory which is not self-supporting.

SHIPPING.

During the year 1907, 515 steamers, representing a tonnage of 372,411 tons, entered this port, as compared with 473 steamers, with a tonnage of 363,202 tons, during 1906. These figures are exclusive of Admiralty colliers and Government transports.

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were introduced after having been approved:—

1. The Anchorage and Junk and Boat Ordinance, 1907.
2. The Pensions Ordinance, 1904, Amendment Ordinance, 1907.
3. The Wild Birds and Game Preservation Ordinance, 1907.

EDUCATION.

During the past year the average attendance at the Government Free School was 51, as compared with 53 last year. The boys are required to possess a fair knowledge of Chinese before proceeding to the study of English. In all subjects requiring the exercise of memory such as elementary history and geography very good progress has been made. In other subjects such as arithmetic, requiring the exercise of the reasoning faculties, progress has not been so satisfactory. This is perhaps to be explained by the fact that for centuries past in Chinese schools the memory alone has been highly trained while the reasoning faculties have been left largely undeveloped. Education on modern lines is now becoming general in China, and Chinese teachers are trying to train not only the memory but also the reasoning faculties.

The health of the boys has been excellent, and regular physical drill has produced a marked improvement in their carriage and appearance.

The average attendance at the Anglo-Chinese School was 21 as compared with 18 in 1906, and the attendance is still rapidly increasing.

This school has become very popular among the Chinese owing to the energetic work of the Rev. A. E. Burne of the Anglican Mission. The standard aimed at is high, and the progress during the last year has been very good.

At other Mission Schools the average attendance was 20 at Dr. Case's School and 10 at Father Hallam's.

The average attendance at Mrs. Case's School for Chinese girls was 17 as compared with 15 last year.

At the free school on the Island established by Mr. Duncan Clark the average attendance was 32, less than last year when the average attendance was 43.

The number of pupils in attendance at the Weihaiwei School was 30. The health of the school was as usual excellent

A school for Chinese girls is about to be started by the Chinese members of the local branch of the Anti-Foot-binding Society.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

CASES TRIED.

In Appendix I. will be found an abstract of cases tried showing the offences and the number of convictions.

There were 907 convictions as compared with 449 in the previous year. Of these no fewer than 339 were for offences under the Gambling Ordinance.

CRIME.

The territory has never been more free from serious crime than during the last year. The marked absence of crime and the number and nature of the offences for which persons were tried show how remarkably well-behaved the inhabitants of this territory are.

Only one case was tried by the High Court, a charge of manslaughter. The accused, who was a stoker on board one of His Majesty's ships, was acquitted.

Cases of suicide have, as last year, been comparatively numerous. By far the greater number occur among women, the motive in many cases being trivial in the extreme. The frequency of suicide appears to be due partly to the fact that the idea of death in itself does not seem to act as a deterrent, and partly to the fact that the taking one's own life is apparently not regarded as disgraceful nor as implying any moral obliquity. The District Officer reports that, so far as his experience goes, the only occasions on which an act of suicide is condemned by the general voice of the community are when a young married woman destroys herself before she has presented her husband with a son or while she is still nursing an infant.

CIVIL.

As usual the great majority of cases tried were civil suits, chiefly concerned with the ownership of land, breach of contract, adoption, and inheritance, ancestral worship, administration of clan property and all the multifarious matters that arise from the intricate and complicated system of Chinese relationships. Litigation regarding those and kindred matters shows a continued tendency to increase, which is not so much due to the litigious spirit of the people as to an ever increasing appreciation of the advantages of the administration of justice under the British flag and to the establishment of the Court of the District Officer in a central portion of the territory amongst the agricultural population. The cheapness of litigation in Weihaiwei is to the Chinese certainly not one of its least attractive features. No court fees are charged and no solicitors or barristers practise in the territory. There can be no other place under British administration where litigation costs less than at Weihaiwei, so the people have discovered that when even a trivial quarrel arises it is much simpler and cheaper to have the case decided by the court than to adopt the usual Chinese method of enlisting the good services of "peace makers," a process that necessitates the preparation of a more or less costly banquet. This especially applies to the rural population, the members of which are more addicted to litigation, especially when not busy with their crops, than the mercantile class. The latter dislikes the waste of time involved in going to law and often prefers, unless the case is a serious one, to settle its differences privately.

GAOL.

The number of prisoners sentenced to imprisonment during 1907 was 108, the daily average of prisoners in gaol being 20, as compared with 125 prisoners in 1906 with a daily average of 23. There was one death in prison. The behaviour of the prisoners and their health were excellent.

It has been found that the cure during imprisonment of any but the most confirmed opium smokers has been effected by depriving the smoker entirely of the drug at the cost to him of not more than a week or ten days of diarrhœa and malaise.

HOSPITALS.*

The in-patients treated during the year on the Island numbered 35 and at Port Edward 120.

There were on the Island 2,520 out-patients, and at Port Edward 2,306. These figures show a very satisfactory increase, especially as regards the hospital at Port Edward. The out-patients during 1906 at the latter hospital were 806, so that the number of admissions during 1907 were nearly three times greater than during the previous year.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

The hospital statistics (Appendix II.) show that the territory has been remarkably free from disease during the past year. No cases of small-pox were reported.

The Chinese are fully alive to the advantages of vaccination which has been systematically carried out. The number of vaccinations performed were 3,737 on the mainland and 128 on the Island, as compared with 3,064 on the mainland and 223 on the Island in 1906.

There was very little dysentery at any time during the year.

Although no enteric fever could be traced locally, there were two cases among the summer visitors. One of these was certainly imported from Shanghai. The origin of the other case was more obscure, but it seems probable that in this case also infection was introduced from outside the territory.

---

* The figures under the heading Hospitals in the Report for 1906 are incorrectly given through a confusion between the number of attendances and the number of patients. The hospital statistics given in Appendix II. of the same report are correct.

Three cases of beri-beri occurred among the Japanese in connection with a single building.

The house and soil have been thoroughly disinfected, and it is hoped that there will be no recurrence of this disease

SANITATION.

The sanitary condition of Port Edward and the Island is good.

A new dairy erected on the mainland has been well kept and has supplied milk of a good quality.

METEOROLOGICAL.

In Appendix III. will be found the meteorological return for 1907. The highest monthly barometrical average was for December 30·209″, and the lowest for August 29·624″, the average monthly range being 0·546″.

The highest temperature was 92° F., recorded in June and August, and the lowest 7° F., in January and February.

Rain or snow fell on 90 days, the annual fall being 37·85″, an amount higher than the average and exceeded only once in the last seven years.

July was the wettest month, with a rainfall of 12·29″.

POSTAL.

The number of mails received during the year was 648, containing, besides ordinary correspondence, 1,572 parcels and registered mail matter. The number of mails despatched was 348, containing, besides ordinary correspondence, 2,469 registered letters and parcels.

The re-opening of the Trans-Siberian route for carrying mails has greatly decreased the time taken for correspondence to reach England and Weihaiwei. All Siberian mails to and from London are forwarded through the British post office at Chefoo, communication with which is maintained both by sea and overland. Mails by way of Siberia from London have been received at Weihaiwei in sixteen days. Although this route has been re-opened for almost a year, many people do not yet seem to know that letters from London marked viâ Siberia can reach this territory almost twice as quickly as they can by way of the Suez Canal, and that the postage is only one penny an ounce.

The total receipts through the sale of stamps and postal notes amounted to $10,760.64, as compared with $10,343.38 in 1906.

GENERAL.

Although the general trade of Weihaiwei does not improve, the natives of the territory show signs of a gradually increasing prosperity, which is to a great extent due to the series of good harvests which they have enjoyed ever since the British flag was hoisted here. The value of agricultural land has risen greatly during the past few years, which has led to an eagerness to redeem mortgaged lands. Perhaps one of the surest indications of an advance in prosperity is shown by the fact that the gradual increase of prices for goods of almost every description, including Chinese necessaries, appears to produce no change for the worse in the normal standard of living among the larger proportion of the population. Apart from the good harvests the comparative prosperity of the present time is also partly due to the visits of the British fleet, which, however, have been neither so long nor so frequent in recent times as they were formerly. But the prosperity of the people is due still more to the small but steady stream of money that flows into this territory from Manchuria. Many labourers from Weihaiwei find work in that country and always maintain connection with their old village home, to which many eventually return with large savings. It may be added, too, that a small portion of the money earned and saved by Chinese coolies, natives of Weihaiwei, who went to South Africa, is now circulating in this territory.

Most friendly relations have been maintained during the past year between the officers of this Government and the Chinese officials in the districts coterminous with this territory. The latter have always shown themselves willing to render assistance in all cases in which their co-operation has been invited. In fact, during the past six years the most harmonious relations have always existed between the representatives of the Government of China in the province of Shantung and the Government of Weihaiwei.

I have, &c.,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

Government House,
Weihaiwei,
9th June, 1908.

APPENDIX I.

ABSTRACT OF CASES.

HIGH COURT.

Offence.	Charged.	Convicted.
Manslaughter	1	—
Total	1	—

MAGISTRATE'S COURT (PORT EDWARD).

Offences.	Convictions.
Assault	31
Begging	7
Breach of anchorage regulations	20
Breach of dog regulations	25
Breach of junk regulations	33
Breach of sanitary regulations	3
Breach of opium ordinance	19
Breach of spirits ordinance	2
Bribery	3
Committing a nuisance	22
Contempt of court	4
Creating disturbance	35
Cruelty to animals	2
Damaging Government property	7
Drunk and disorderly	3
Embezzlement	3
False pretences	3
Gambling	134
Impersonation	2
Keeping disorderly house	6
Neglect of duty	19
Neglect to register transfers of land	3
Non-report of cases of unnatural death	4
Obstructing police	2
Quarrying without licence	4
Selling bad meat	1
Selling bad milk	2
Theft	21
Trespass	6
Total	426

MAGISTRATE'S COURT (ISLAND OF LIUKUNG).

Offences.	Convictions.
Attempted suicide	2
Breach of sampan regulations	30
Breach of sanitary regulations	21
Breach of junk regulations	3
Committing a nuisance	3
Creating disturbance	11
Cruelty to animals	7
Carried forward	77

MAGISTRATE'S COURT (ISLAND OF LIUKUNG)—*cont.*

Offences.	Convictions.
Brought forward	77
Drunk and disorderly	2
Gambling	53
Keeping disorderly house	2
Neglect of duty	6
Receiving stolen property	2
Theft...	12
Trespass	4
Miscellaneous	13
Total...	171

(Signed) R. WALTER,
Magistrate.

MAGISTRATE'S COURT, WÊNCH'UAN-T'ANG.

Offences.	Convictions.
Breach of opium and spirit regulations	17
Conspiracy	11
Gambling	152
Indecent conduct	1
Assault	5
Robbery under arms	1
Robbery	2
Larceny	4
Obstructing police	2
Bringing false accusations	28
Evasion of cattle inspection fees	3
Contempt of court	4
Bribery and corruption	8
Obtaining money or property by false pretences	2
Evasion of taxes, licence and registration fees	17
Usurpation of land	9
Nuisance	6
Failing to report cases of unnatural death	7
Disorderly conduct	13
Embezzlement	1
Sale of infected meat	1
Impersonation of police	2
Miscellaneous	14
Total	310

(Signed) R. F. JOHNSTON,
Magistrate.

APPENDIX II.

CIVIL HOSPITAL (ISLAND).

STATISTICS FOR 1907.

Name.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Totals.	Remarks.
I.—GENERAL DISEASES.				
Small-pox	—	—	—	1 case in 1904, 1 in 1905.
Measles	—	—	—	31 cases in 1904, 7 in 1905, 1 in 1906.
Enteric fever ...	—	—	—	Except an odd case imported, has not arisen on island.
Febricula	17	2	19	
Malarial fever ...	3	—	3	Imported, no anopheles have been yet discovered.
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	
Hooping cough ...	1	—	1	
Mumps	4	—	4	13 cases in 1904, 20 in 1905, 5 in 1906.
Rheumatism ...	120	2	122	Muscular and chronic, is increasing since the cultivation of the island has been permitted.
Syphilis	10	1	11	
Leprosy	—	1	1	From territory where it occurs occasionally.
Cancer	2	—	2	
Erysipelas... ...	—	1	1	
Tumours	—	1	1	Sebaceous.
Anæmia	16	—	16	
Opium habit ...	2	—	2	
II.—LOCAL DISEASES.				
Nervous System ...	11	—	11	Mainly functional, 1 paralysis and 1 epilepsy.
Eye	254	2	256	Mainly acute conjunctivitis.
Ear	46	—	46	
Nose	6	—	6	
Circulatory System	9	—	9	
Absorbent "	6	—	6	
Respiratory "	270	—	270	17 asthma, 129 acute bronchitis.
Carried forward	777	10	787	

CIVIL HOSPITAL (ISLAND)—*cont.*

Statistics for 1907—cont.

Name.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Totals.	Remarks.
Brought forward	777	10	787	
Digestive System...	288	1	289	Diarrhœa 71, dysentery 3, jaundice 2 cases, hepatitis 1 case.
Teeth	91	—	91	Chiefly caries.
Generative System	36	4	40	
Cutaneous ,,	780	6	786	Boils 78, abscess 86, eczema 106.
Osseous ,,	1	1	2	
Parasites	350	1	351	Lumbrici 170, tape worm 1, scabies 157, pediculi 23.
Poisons	3	—	3	Arsenic 1, opium 1, matches 1.
Injuries	125	8	133	Cuts 82, burns 42.
Total... ...	2,451	31	2,482	
III. OPERATIONS.	69	4	73	All minor.
IV. VACCINATIONS.	128	—	128	230 last year.

(Signed) H. J. HICKIN,
M.B. & C.M. (Glasgow) L.M. (Dublin).
Medical Officer.

CIVIL HOSPITAL, PORT EDWARD.

STATISTICS FOR 1907.

Name.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Remarks.
I.—GENERAL DISEASES.			
Rheumatism	47	—	
Anæmia	7	—	
Parasites	248	—	Intestinal worms.
Syphilis	56	7	
Febricula	25	1	
Carried forward ...	383	8	

Civil Hospital, Port Edward—*cont.*

Statistics for 1907—cont.

Name.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Remarks.
Brought forward ...	383	8	
Malaria	33	—	
Cancer	—	2	Epithelioma.
Tubercle	21	3	
Erysipelas	—	7	
Dysentery	37	2	
Leprosy	5	1	
Beri-beri	—	3	
Hernia	2	1	
Gangrene	—	1	Frost bite.
Deformities	—	3	1 web fingers, 1 imperforate anus, 1 supernumerary toes, all relieved by operation.
II.—LOCAL DISEASES.			
Nervous System	40	4	Insanity, hysteria, headache, &c.
Circulatory System ...	30	2	
Respiratory " ...	104	2	2 empyema, bronchitis, &c.
Digestive " ...	253	4	
Lymphatic " ...	7	2	
Generative " ...	59	4	
Cutaneous " ...	478	3	
Osseous " ...	18	9	
Urinary " ...	11	1	Stricture of urethra, &c.
Eye	189	10	2 sarcoma of eye ball.
Ear	76	—	
Throat	25	—	
Nose	1	—	
Liver	5	1	1 liver abscess.
Teeth	65	—	
Connective tissue	319	9	Ulcers, abscesses, &c.
Tumours	5	1	
Anal fistula	4	4	Relieved by operation.
Injuries	120	17	
Poison	11	1	4 opium, 5 matches, 1 arsenic, 1 kerosene oil.
Totals	2,302	105	
III.—PARTURITION ...	4	—	1 miscarriage, 3 instrumental.
IV.—OPERATIONS ...	—	15	3 amputations, 2 excision of eyeball, 1 abscess of liver.
V.—VACCINATIONS ...	3,737	—	——

There was one death in hospital, a man admitted suffering from arsenical poisoning dying two hours after admission.

(Signed) W. M. Muat, M.B.,
Medical Officer.

APPENDIX III.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN for 1907.

1907.		Barometer.			Temperature.						Rain or Snow.	
	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Mean for the Month.	Range.	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Range in the Month.	Mean of all Highest.	Mean of all Lowest.	Mean daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount collected.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.								Inches.
January	30·470	29·874	30·211	·596	48°F.	7°F.	41°F.	41°F.	22°F.	19°F.	10 (7 snow)	1·67
February	30·468	29·988	30·253	·480	48°	7°	41°	40°	18°	22°	3 (snow)	0·14
March	30·516	29·850	30·186	·666	63°	19°	44°	47°	27°	20°	4 (2 snow)	0·49
April	30·360	29·568	30·035	·792	77°	31°	46°	61°	39°	22°	4	2·25
May	30·094	29·566	29·967	·528	89°	40°	49°	73°	48°	25°	8	6·06
June	30·116	29·600	29·825	·516	92°	40°	52°	78°	53°	25°	5	4·44
July	29·960	29·534	29·791	·426	91°	57°	34°	81°	64°	17°	11	12·29
August	30·038	29·590	29·625	·448	92°	60°	32°	84°	67°	17°	11	5·16
September	30·286	29·790	30·051	·496	84°	51°	33°	79°	60°	19°	7	2·93
October	30·342	29·962	30·166	·380	80°	40°	40°	72°	51°	21°	5	0·47
November	30·526	30·014	30·269	·512	71°	20°	51°	52°	35°	17°	13 (4 snow)	1·68
December	30·630	29·908	30·290	·722	56°	15°	41°	41°	24°	17°	9 (5 snow)	0·27
Mean	30·317	29·770	30·055	·546	74°F.	32°F.	42°F.	62°F.	42°F.	23°F.	°90	°37·85

° Total.

14th August, 1907 : Comet seen about 2.30 a.m.

10th January, 1907 : Slight earthquake shock, 1.45 p.m.
23rd December, 1907 : Earthquake shock, 12.15 a.m.

Port Edward, Weihaiwei.

(Signed) W. M. MUAT, M.B.,
Medical Officer.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906–1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906–1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906–1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906–1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906–1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907–1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	"
568	Bermuda	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
44	East Africa Protectorate	Survey Department.
45	Do. do.	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey (1904–5).
47	Do. do.	Do. (1905–6).
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 605.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1908.

(For Report for 1907, *see* No. 569.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1909.

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No. 605.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1907, *see* No. 569.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei.
26th May, 1909.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1908.

I have, &c.,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $83,277, as compared with $80,331 during the previous year. The expenditure during the year amounted to $168,740, as compared with $173,340 the expenditure of the previous year.

The following are the heads of revenue and expenditure for last year, as compared with those of the previous year :—

Revenue.

Head.	1907–8.	1908–9.
	$	$
Licences and Internal Revenue ...	30,769	32,830
Fees of Court	2,544	2,802
Rents of Government Property, Land and Houses	45,597	45,815
Interest	718	991
Miscellaneous	703	839
Total ...	80,331	83,277

Expenditure.

Head.	1907–8.	1908–9.
	$	$
Commissioner's Establishment ...	22,945	24,541
Secretary to Government	12,739	12,813
District Officer	7,575	8,004
Police and Gaol	24,688	26,498
Medical and Sanitary	13,890	15,469
Public Works Department	3,575	2,993
Public Works	36,647	33,605
Fruit and Forestry Department ...	5,118	3,938
Miscellaneous Services	46,163	40,879
Total ...	173,340	168,740

The total revenue and expenditure for the last eight years were as follows :—

Years.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	$	$
1901–2	22,220	121,877
1902–3	35,456	102,044
1903–4	58,586	165,873
1904–5	90,355	162,282
1905–6	105,934	146,120
1906–7	76,777	160,973
1907–8	80,331	173,340
1908–9	83,277	168,740

Grant-in-Aid.

The deficit each year has been met by a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds, which has been as follows during the past eight years :—

Years.	Amount.
	£
1901–2	11,250
1902–3	12,000
1903–4	9,000
1904–5	6,000
1905–6	3,000
1906–7	4,500
1907–8	10,000
1908–9	10,000

PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works were undertaken during the year with the exception of quarters for the District officer, erected at a cost of $5,000.

The main roads have been carefully maintained and a beginning has been made to improve the smaller roads between villages in the Territory.

POLICE.

The total strength of the force for the year 1908 was :—3 European inspectors ; 3 sergeants (Chinese), and 54 constables (Chinese).

With such a small police force a very high standard of discipline has to be maintained, and the members of the force understand clearly that the least remissness on their part will not be overlooked. It is, therefore, satisfactory to be able to report that the behaviour of the force generally has been excellent whilst its health has been very good. As two thirds of the men were soldiers of the 1st Chinese Regiment, while the inspectors were all sergeants in the same regiment, care has been taken to continue so far as possible the military training of the force. The whole force received musketry training during the year and the percentage of marksmen and first class shots showed a considerable increase on last year's results. All available members of the force also attended the field firing scheme and showed great keenness in carrying it out. All new recruits who have never been drilled before are put through a course of drill on joining the police and show themselves very apt pupils.

FIRE BRIGADE.

No serious fire occurred during the year, but there was a small outbreak of fire in the centre of the town which might easily have assumed serious proportions had it not been for the smartness of the local volunteer brigade. This brigade consists of 66 assistants in Chinese shops, who are divided into squads superintended by some of the Chinese clerks in Government employ. Fire alarms are held monthly and have been well attended, with the result that each man knows how to act in case of fire.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

There are no capitalists resident in this Territory and wealthy merchants at Shanghai are not inclined under existing conditions to invest their capital here. This is illustrated by the attitude of the Shanghai public in regard to the question of starting a fruit-growing company here. The results of the fruit-growing experiments made by Government have proved conclusively that fruit could be successfully and profitably produced in this Territory, and certain persons were very anxious to form a company, buy or rent ground, and start business, but owing to the uncertainty of tenure it was found impossible to raise the small capital required.

It cannot, however, be said that trade is either stagnant or diminishing, though owing to the place being a free port it is not possible to give accurate returns of imports and exports as there are no Customs returns.

The export, or rather re-export, of salt has again been very large. The salt comes mainly in junks from the various lagoons on the coast of this Province, and on arrival at Weihaiwei it is transhipped to Hong Kong where it apparently finds a ready market.

The export of ground-nuts and ground-nut seeds has also been very considerable, and the villagers are beginning to realise that the cultivation of these crops is more profitable than the growth of ordinary cereals. The figures for the export of ground-nuts and seeds for the last three years are as follows :—

—	1906.	1907.	1908.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Ground-nuts	24,168	12,294	16,000
Ground-nut seeds	13,505	25,320	60,753

A picul = 133⅓ lbs.

During the past year, the import of oil by the Standard Oil Company has increased very considerably. The Company has erected a spacious godown on land leased from Government for storing oil which is brought down from Chefoo in oil barges towed by the Company's launches.

18,000 cases of Devoes Brilliant Brand and 3,000 cases of Tiger Brand Oil were landed by this Company during the year. Sumatra oil again shows a decrease, other firms being apparently unable to compete against the Standard Oil Company.

A large number of Japanese fishing junks arrived during the summer for the purpose of shark-fishing on the high seas—a comparatively new industry in this neighbourhood. They erected a fishing camp of bamboo and matting on the beach some two miles from Port Edward where the fish was dried and cut up. The fishing season lasts, roughly, for three months—June to August, and the fish are esteemed a great delicacy both by Chinese and Japanese. It is understood that the pecuniary results of the first year's fishing were most successful and that operations will be continued this year.

The Indian Government deputed two military officers to come to China for the purchase of mules. This port was made their centre and the mules were housed in buildings belonging to the Government for a small rental. Altogether 465 mules were sent from here but of these only 129 were purchased within the Territory. The average price of the mules was about $110 a head.

FRUIT-GROWING AND AFFORESTATION.

A general report on the growing of fruit, trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables at Weihaiwei from 1905 to 1909, has been prepared by Mr. Gibbons, horticulturist, specially appointed to superintend the growing of fruit in this territory. Mr. Gibbons states that "the result of four years' experiment has been to demonstrate very clearly that the culture of fruit can be engaged in as a commercial proposition," and that "the experiment has proved to my satisfaction that fruit culture at Weihaiwei would be a safe investment." The experiment having thus demonstrated the fact which it undertook to try to prove, the necessity for retaining the services of an expert no longer exists, so the services of Mr. Gibbons, who performed his duties very satisfactorily, have been dispensed with and the stock of fruit trees sold, almost entirely to residents in this territory.

As regards afforestation, 45,000 fir trees have been planted on Boxer Hill, west of Government House, and 35,000 on the hills behind the Barracks.

100,000 fir trees have also been planted on the island on the hillsides and have proved successful.

Acacia trees have been planted along the sides of the roads, but some of these trees which have been imported from Tsingtao failed owing to their being frozen on arrival here.

Groups of one-year-old acacias have been thickly planted in various places both on the island and mainland.

Propagation.—The following are the principal trees and shrubs which have been propagated during the past year:—Trees: 2,500 acacia, 450 ailanthus, 54 weeping willows, 51 silver poplars, and a few other varieties. Shrubs: 4,500 wegelia rosea, 250 lagerstroemia indica, 200 silver elder, 115 sea buckthorn, 100 spiroea callosa, 70 forsythia suspensa, 44 hibiscus syriacus, and a few other varieties.

In order to encourage the Chinese to undertake fruit culture and tree planting a small pamphlet prepared by Mr. Gibbons has been translated into simple Chinese and widely distributed in the Territory. The pamphlet gives general elementary instructions as to pruning, manuring, propagating, &c., and should prove of benefit to the Chinese.

SHIPPING.

There was a perceptible increase in the amount of shipping that passed through the port in 1908 as compared with the previous year.

The figures are as follows :—

	Number of Steamers.	Tonnage.
1907	515	372,411
1908	599	488,151

The figures for both years are exclusive of Admiralty colliers and Government transports.

The total tonnage of British steamers during the year 1908 was 408,440 tons, representing 353 steamers ; the remainder consisted of German steamers with a tonnage of 9,445 tons and small Japanese and Chinese coasting boats with a tonnage varying from 1,500 tons to 100 tons and even less.

LEGISLATION.

Only one Ordinance, viz., "The Births and Deaths Amendment Ordinance, 1908," was introduced after having been approved.

A draft Ordinance to regulate the issue and circulation within the Territory of Chinese bank and shop notes was submitted for the approval of the Secretary of State but was not approved. No trouble has arisen so far on account of the absence of special legislation dealing with Chinese notes.

EDUCATION.

The average attendance at the Government Free School during the past year was 45 compared with 51 last year. The progress made in the study of English is not great. As long as the set subjects are rigidly adhered to, a certain knowledge is shown, but when that knowledge has to be applied to unseen work and unexpected conversation the results are poor.

The subject of elementary hygiene was introduced into the curriculum during the year, and the results of the first examination showed that the majority of pupils has succeeded in learning the text book by heart ; but it is doubtful whether they have acquired any practical knowledge of the real meaning of hygiene.

The general health of the school has been excellent.

The average attendance at the Anglo-Chinese School was 30 as compared with 21 in 1907. The object of this school is to give those who wish it a thorough training in the usual subjects taught in an English school, as well as the Chinese classics. The standard attained by the scholars is distinctly good and many of the boys have passed successfully into Chinese Government Colleges and such institutions as St. John's College, Shanghai. The good results obtained are due to the Rev. A. E. Burne, who is in charge of the school.

The attendance at Dr. Case's Mission School averaged 20, while Mrs. Case's School for Chinese girls averaged a similar number. Father Hallam's School had six pupils.

A day-school was opened in March by Franciscan Sisters attached to the Roman Catholic Mission and has given instruction to six pupils (five Japanese and one Corean).

The school for girls established by Chinese members of the local branch of the Anti-foot Binding Society, which was opened last year, has made a good start. There was an attendance of 13 girls who are taught needlework and elementary Chinese writing and reading. During the summer a sale of artificial flowers made by the girls at this school was held, and the skill and taste shown were highly creditable.

The number of pupils at the Weihaiwei School for European boys reached 35. The health of the school was very good and the school did well in the College of Preceptors' Examination, no fewer than six pupils having obtained honours.

The average attendance at the Free School on the Island was 26. The object of this school is to assist a few boys from the country whose parents are anxious to educate them but cannot afford to pay for their education. Several boys are boarded free at the school.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

There were altogether, including six cases tried by the High Court, 909 convictions as compared with 907 convictions in the previous year. The number of convictions under the Gambling Ordinance shows a very considerable reduction, for in 1907 there were altogether 339 convictions under this Ordinance whereas in 1908 the number of convictions fell to 224.

CRIME.

The Territory continues to enjoy a marked immunity from crime of a serious character. Six cases of robbery were tried by the High Court and sentences ranging from five years' penal servitude to six months' imprisonment were inflicted.

Cases of suicide have again been numerous, no fewer than 67 cases having been reported. Though various theories have from time to time been advanced to account for this curious and undesirable feature in Chinese life in this Territory, it still remains difficult to account for the frequency of suicide. The Government has taken steps to diminish, if possible, the fatal results in cases of poisoning, by issuing simple instructions in the vernacular explaining what should be done in the way of first aid when persons have attempted to poison themselves.

CIVIL.

Both of the Magistrates' Courts have been fully occupied with the litigation which is so marked a feature of Chinese village life in Weihaiwei. The magistrates endeavour, as far as possible, to decide the civil cases which arise in accordance with Chinese law and customs, and the fact that the villagers seek the assistance of the courts more and more every year shows that these efforts are appreciated. The system of having duly authorised petition writers has been abolished at the suggestion of the district officer because it was found that these petition writers grossly abused their positions, charged extortionate fees, and stirred up litigation on their own account.

The services of the district headmen are frequently employed as arbitrators and some of them have been very useful in arbitrating troublesome cases. Settlements obtained by arbitration are not infrequently more lasting in their effects than decisions of the Court, which, however just and however carefully considered, may leave an enduring sense of hardship in the mind of the losing party. Public opinion generally considers litigation a thing to be avoided, and a man who can "talk peace" and prevent a case going into Court is held in esteem. Every possible phase of Chinese life is revealed in the cases which come to Court, and without a sympathetic understanding of the people and a knowledge of their language and customs it would be impossible to administer justice in a manner that would give satisfaction to those who seek redress. Evidence is apt to be extremely conflicting and the puzzles and conundrums which the rustics desire the magistrates to solve are frequently very bewildering. Documents are produced often hundreds of years old in proof of rights of ownership or cultivation, division of family property, &c., and many cases are fought out generation after generation.

GAOL.

The number of prisoners sentenced to imprisonment during the year 1908 was 163, the daily average of prisoners in gaol being 29 as compared with 108 prisoners in 1907 with a daily average of 23. These figures show that the population, estimated at 150,000, is very well behaved and orderly. There were no deaths in gaol, but there was an attempted suicide on the part of one of the prisoners which was, however, successfully dealt with. The general behaviour and health of the prisoners were excellent. The prisoners perform a considerable amount of useful manual labour—stone-breaking, repairing roads, tree-planting—and as a result of this healthy outdoor life and of the good food provided in the gaol, prisoners when discharged almost invariably appear more physically fit than on their admission to gaol.

OPIUM.

During the year preliminary steps were taken to give effect to the policy of His Majesty's Government in connection with opium.

Fortunately the question of opium in this Territory is one which can be comparatively easily dealt with as the number of smokers is small and the interests involved are not large.

At present the sole right of selling prepared opium in Weihaiwei is vested in a farmer who pays the Government for the privilege an annual sum of $7,000, or less than £700.

The present farm expires on the 30th June next and will not be renewed After that date all importation of opium will be prohibited by Ordinance except such as may be necessary for persons who produce a medical certificate showing that it is required as medicine. Such opium will be sold by a few responsible licensed vendors under substantial guarantee, and illicit sales will be prohibited by adequate penalties.

Public opinion in this Territory is strongly opposed to the evils of opium, so it is hoped that the habit, even among those who indulge in it, will gradually cease. Some of those addicted to the habit are already endeavouring to abandon it, and when an Ordinance has been introduced on the lines indicated, after the 30th June, there seems every reason to believe that the evil will be largely, if not entirely, eradicated in Weihaiwei.

HOSPITALS.

The in-patients treated during the year at the Island Hospital numbered 27 as against 35 of the preceding year; the out-patients at the same hospital numbered 2,339 as against 2,520 for the preceding year.

At the Port Edward Hospital the in-patients numbered 106 as against 120 for 1907; and the out-patients numbered 2,347 as against 2,520 for 1907.

The total figures therefore show a slight reduction on the figures for 1907.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Territory has again been very free from disease, the only serious epidemic occurring at a village some five miles from Port Edward. There were altogether 75 cases of cholera in this village, of which 27 proved fatal. The epidemic was fortunately confined to this village alone. The history of infection was quite clear. A woman arrived at the village in question from Peking. The day after her arrival she showed symptoms of cholera and very quickly died. Other cases soon broke out in the same house, and the disease spread through the village. Pamphlets in simple vernacular were printed and distributed in the village, giving the people elementary instructions as to the strict necessity of cleanliness with a view to preventing the further spread of the disease, which fortunately confined itself to the village in which it originated.

Two cases of beri beri occurred among Japanese fishermen, both of whom recovered on removal to hospital.

There was also a mild outbreak of nine cases of chickenpox in the Weihaiwei school.

Two deaths occurred from hydrophobia.

The general health of the European community has been excellent. There were only three deaths in that community, one of them being that of an infant who died from dysentery.

Vaccination among the Chinese was again carried out on a large scale, the number of vaccinations performed on the mainland amounting to 4,234 as against 3,737 last year, and on the island 194, as against 128 during the previous year.

It is satisfactory to note that the Government Vaccinators were, for the first time on record, given permission by the Weihaiwei city authorities to carry out vaccination in that city, which is outside British jurisdiction.

SANITATION.

The sanitary condition of the island and of Port Edward is good and continues to excite the favourable comments of visitors to the Territory.

Samples of water obtained from six wells were sent for analysis to Hong Kong and analysed by the Government analyst there. His report states that five of the samples were good, but that of the sixth was indifferent. Steps are being taken at the suggestion of the analyst to remedy the defect in the well from which the indifferent sample was obtained, and to provide against any chance of contamination of any of the wells in future.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The highest monthly barometrical average was for December, 30·724, and the lowest for June, 29·446. The average monthly range was ·616.

The highest temperature recorded was 92°F. in August, and the lowest 11°F. in January and February.

Rain or snow fell on 105 days, the annual fall being 33·42 inches or 4·43 inches less than for 1907. July was again the wettest month with a rainfall of 13·25 inches.

POSTAL.

The Island Post Office has been much improved by extensions in the building and the Port Edward branch office has been removed to a more convenient place in the centre of the town, close to the pier.

Most private letters to and from England now go by way of Siberia. The quickest time in which a mail has reached here from London via Siberia during the past year was 18 days : the quickest time by the Suez route was 30 days.

The number of mails received during the year was 664, composed of 864 bags, &c., containing besides ordinary correspondence 2,297 parcels and registered mail matter. The number of mails despatched by steamer and courier was 430 composed of 616 bags containing besides ordinary correspondence 3,798 registered articles.

The total receipts for the sale of stamps and postal notes amounted to $15,129·87 as compared with $10,760·64 in 1907.

GENERAL.

The death of the Emperor of China and of the Empress Dowager in November did not apparently create much impression on the rustic population here who were given to understand that they had full liberty to adopt such mourning as they desired.

Constitutional reform is being introduced in the Province of Shantung as in the other provinces of China. Representatives of the Chinese Government, at the request of that Government, were allowed to come to this Territory to prepare a register of such electors as are entitled to become, or to vote for, members of the Provincial Assembly to be held at Chinan, the capital of Shantung. The register has been completed and the first election of members of the Provincial Assembly is now taking place.

His Excellency Yüan Shu-hsün, Governor of Shantung, paid me an official visit in October. The relations between His Excellency's Government and that of this Territory continue to be of the most friendly and cordial nature.

A very sad case of shipwreck occurred in the waters of this Territory in November. A Japanese steamer, named the Ginsei Maru, whilst on a voyage from Antung to Chefoo with a cargo of silk and passengers, was caught in a gale and driven on the rocks at Cape Cod near the western entrance to the harbour of Weihaiwei. All the crew and passengers, numbering in all about 500, perished.

The general condition of the affairs of this territory during the past year may be considered as satisfactory as circumstances permit. Whilst trade has not increased appreciably, the general standard of living among the Chinese population appears to be steadily improving. The harvests have been good, the people appear to be contented, and there has been but little crime. The number of visitors during the summer months was the largest on record and there is every indication that it will continue to increase.

I have, &c.,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

Government House,
Weihaiwei,
26th May, 1909.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
570	Hong Kong...	1907
571	Malta	1907–1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907–1908
575	Bahamas	"
576	Gambia	1907
577	St. Vincent	1907–1908
578	Turks and Caicos Islands	1907
579	St. Lucia	"
580	Fiji	"
581	Mauritius	"
582	Straits Settlements	"
583	Southern Nigeria	"
584	Imperial Institute	1906–1907
585	Barbados	1907–1908
586	Somaliland Protectorate	"
587	Trinidad and Tobago	"
588	Sierra Leone	1907
589	British Guiana	1907–1908
590	Grenada	1907
591	Leeward Islands	1907–1908
592	East Africa Protectorate	"
593	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
594	Northern Nigeria	"
595	Basutoland	"
596	Swaziland	"
597	St. Helena	1908
598	Gibraltar	1907–1908
599	Falkland Islands	1908
600	Uganda	1907–1908
601	Imperial Institute	1908
602	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
603	Ashanti	"
604	Ceylon	1908–1909

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's Visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Reitfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	Salt Industry.
57	Uganda	Governor's Tour.
58	British Colonies	Fibres.
59	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1906–7.

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1909.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 637.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1909.

(For Report for 1908, *see* No. 605.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
June, 1910.

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1910.

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No. 637.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1908, *see* No. 605.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
15th April, 1910.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1909.

I have, &c.,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

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FINANCIAL.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $83,499, as compared with $83,277 during the previous year. The expenditure during the year amounted to $145,852, as compared with $168,740, the expenditure of the previous year.

The following are the heads of revenue and expenditure for last year, as compared with those of the previous year:—

Revenue.

Head.	1908-9.	1909-10.
	$	$
Licences and Internal Revenue	32,830	58,403
Fees of Court	2,802	3,426
Rents of Government Property, Land and Houses	45,815	18,838
Interest	991	1,357
Miscellaneous	839	1,475
Total	83,277	83,499

Expenditure.

Head.	1908-9.	1909-10.
	$	$
Commissioner's Establishment	24,541	25,586
Secretary to Government	12,813	14,796
District Officer	8,004	8,610
Police and Gaol	26,498	26,427
Medical and Sanitary	15,469	16,930
Public Works Department	2,993	2,738
Public Works	33,605	19,700
Fruit and Forestry Department	3,938	2,015
Miscellaneous Services	40,879	29,050
Total	168,740	145,852

The total revenue and expenditure for the last five years is as follows:—

Years.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	$	$
1905-6	105,934	146,120
1906-7	76,777	160,973
1907-8	80,331	173,340
1908-9	83,277	168,740
1909-10	83,499	145,852

The deficit each year has been met by a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds, which has been as follows during the past five years:—

Years.	Amount.
	£
1905-6...	3,000
1906-7...	4,500
1907-8...	10,000
1908-9...	10,000
1909-10	4,400

PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year no new buildings were erected and no extension was made to the Government main roads. The roads were subject to a much greater strain than in any previous year, on account of the increase in cart traffic, which was unknown here a few years ago. The carts in use, having heavy clumsy wheels and no springs, make deep ruts in the roads after rain and snow, and, as a result, the cost of maintenance of roads will be greater than it used to be when no cart traffic existed. Village roads were extended for about five miles under the superintendence of Mr. Liang Tê-yang, who gave his services gratuitously. The cost of the extension was met by a grant from Government, and by subscriptions from the Chinese either in the shape of money or labour.

The improvement in the road system in this Territory is so much appreciated that there is a general desire among the farmers and others for an extension of the roads to the neighbouring district cities of Jung ch'êng, Wêntêng, and Ninghai, and an influential petition has been addressed to this Government asking that the Chinese authorities may be urged to construct cart roads between those cities and the frontier of this territory. The petition has been forwarded to the Governor of Shantung, who seems disposed to favour the proposal, though it is feared that want of funds may delay the work for some time to come.

Bridges suffered no damage of any kind during the year.

POLICE.

The total strength of the force was 3 European inspectors, 3 Chinese sergeants, and 53 Chinese constables, who were disposed as follows:—

Two European inspectors, 2 sergeants, and 38 constables were stationed at Port Edward.

One sergeant and 7 constables at the headquarters of the district officer in the Territory.

One European inspector and 8 constables on the Island.

The Police are moved about from time to time, as it has been found that it is not satisfactory to allow them to remain too long in one place.

All the constables were trained in musketry during the year with satisfactory results, the percentage of first-class shots and marksmen being 75·4. All available members of the force also attended a field firing scheme, which was well executed, the figure of merit being 13·9, and ten men were trained in the use of a machine gun. The health of the force was excellent, but several constables had to be punished and dismissed for accepting bribes in connection with gambling.

FIRE BRIGADE.

Three fires occurred at Port Edward but were quickly extinguished, without doing much damage, by the local volunteer fire brigade. There was also a fire in the city of Weihaiwei, which is under Chinese jurisdiction. The volunteer fire brigade helped to extinguish it and its assistance was much appreciated. Fire alarms were held monthly and on each occasion the volunteer brigade turned out in full numbers and very smartly.

A volunteer fire brigade has just been formed on the Island and is working satisfactorily.

TRADE.

The trade of the territory during 1909 was satisfactory.

The export of ground-nuts and ground-nut seeds was nearly double that of the previous year. The following are the figures for the last three years:—

—	1907.	1908.	1909.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Ground-nuts	12,294	16,000	39,600
Ground-nut seeds	25,320	60,753	100,700

A picul = 133⅓ lbs.

The export of salt was large during the earlier part of the year, but fell off during the latter part.

22,466 cases of Devoe's Brilliant Brand and 6,784 cases of Tiger Brand Oil, as compared with 18,000 cases and 3,000 cases in 1908, were imported by the Standard Oil Company, and only 100 cases of Sumatra oil.

The shark-fishing industry, started by the Japanese in 1908, was continued last year, 19 boats having been engaged in it.

Owing to the increase of exports from the mainland, the anchorage at Port Edward has been so much used by steamers that the agents of the shipping and banking firms who have hitherto had their headquarters on the Island have decided to remove them to Port Edward. This change will save native shippers expense and will be more convenient for them in every way. Their cargoes have hitherto been sent in lighters to the Island anchorage, distant three miles, and there put on steamers or stored until an opportunity of shipping them arose.

There is a good anchorage at Port Edward, and, as steamers are able to anchor close to the shore, the loading and discharge of cargo will be much facilitated. It would be still more convenient if they could go alongside the pier at Port Edward and thus save transhipment of cargoes in lighters; but a considerable expenditure would be necessary to extend that pier, and in the present financial position of the Territory the necessary funds are not available. But if trade and shipping continue to increase this is a question which must receive attention.

SHIPPING.

The total number of steamers that called here during the year was 567, with a total net tonnage of 481,291 tons, as compared with 599 steamers in 1908, with a total net tonnage of 488,151 tons. Of the steamers that called: 381 were British, 9 German, and 177 small Japanese and Chinese coasting boats; the total net tonnage of the last being 22,981.

The above figures do not include Admiralty colliers and Government transports.

AFFORESTATION.

50,000 fir trees were planted out on the Island last year, as compared with 150,000 in 1908. It is intended to plant out 500,000 this year, which number, together with those planted in previous years, will more than cover the south side of the Island. It is hoped that the whole of the Island, which is Government property, will be covered with fir trees by 1912.

As has been pointed out before, the afforestation of the hills on the mainland would much improve the appearance of the Territory and would have a beneficial effect on the rainfall. But to carry out such afforestation would necessitate a larger outlay than can at present be afforded as, in addition to the cost of trees, it would be necessary to purchase the private rights of owners, who either cultivate the hills or plant them with trees or scrub oak for fuel or rearing silkworms. It has, therefore, only been possible under present circumstances to plant 80,000 fir trees on hills in the immediate neighbourhood of Port Edward and to line the roads with acacia, willow, and other trees.

LEGISLATION.

Only one Ordinance was introduced after having been approved, viz., "The Opium Ordinance, 1909."

EDUCATION.

During the past year 51 boys attended the Government Free School. The school curriculum is in accordance with that laid down by the Chinese Government for first-grade schools, and students attending it are, by arrangement with the Chinese Government, allowed, if they so desire, to enter, after examination, a middle-grade school in China. Though the highest form in the Government Free School compares very favourably, as regards sveral subjects, with a middle-grade school in one of the provinces of China which was visited, and though the examination last year was more satisfactory than that of the previous year, there is still much room for improvement throughout the school generally. Special attention was paid to hygiene, in accordance with the instructions of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. A few boys have attained a fair grasp of the subject, but most of the boys are only able to repeat like parrots the text-book they study. A special prize is awarded for this subject, which, it is hoped, will encourage a more intelligent study of it.

The Anglo-Chinese School, managed by the Rev. A. E. Burne, whilst still showing good results, was not so well attended as in the previous year, the average attendance being 20, as compared with 30 in 1908.

The attendance at the Mission School, formerly managed by Dr. Case and now under the management of Mr. Ward Wilson, averaged 22, as compared with 20 last year; whilst Father Hallam's School for young boys about ten years of age was attended by ten boys.

The school for girls started by Mrs. Case and now carried on by Miss Gresham and Miss Rout, had an average attendance of 25, as compared with 20 in 1908. In this school a good elementary education is given in reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, needlework, and lace-making.

The school for girls established by members of the Anti-Foot Binding Society, has made good progress during the year, the attendance being ten, which, it is thought, will be increased this year.

The day school started last year by Franciscan Sisters for girls other than Chinese, is attended by children of British, Corean, and Japanese nationality, the average age and attendance being ten.

Mr. Beer's school for European boys, known as the Weihaiwei School, showed a considerable increase in numbers, which rose from 35 in 1908 to 51 in 1909. The staff now consists of two masters and one mistress in addition to the headmaster. The school possesses a well-instructed, enthusiastic, and smart corps of boy scouts.

The attendance at the Free School on the Island for Chinese boys, established and maintained by Mr. Duncan Clark, had only an average attendance of 8 boys, as compared with 26 in 1908.

As regards the village schools throughout the Territory maintained by Chinese, it is noticeable that new books are gradually finding their way into common use, and that history and geography. subjects never taught in such schools, are beginning to receive attention.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

There were 754 convictions in all, as compared with 909 in 1908. The total number of civil cases was 522, of which 64 were heard by the Magistrate at Port Edward and 458 by the District Officer and Magistrate at Wên Ch'uan t'ang.

The marked immunity from crime of a serious nature continues. The only serious cases of crime during 1909 were one of manslaughter which was tried by the High Court and resulted in the conviction and sentence of two men to two years' imprisonment with hard labour; one case of gross ill-treatment of a woman, which led to suicide; and five cases of robbery. In one of the last, jewellery was stolen on the Island and was eventually all recovered, the guilty parties showing themselves, as in previous cases of a similar kind here, to be anything but experienced burglars. Out of a total of 754 convictions, 266 were for gambling, as compared with 224 in 1908, which shows that gambling still continues to be a very prevalent vice.

Suicides have, as usual, been numerous. Forty cases were reported to Mr. Johnston, the District Officer, and investigated by him; and several other cases were reported to Mr. Walter, Magistrate and Secretary to Government. In reporting on this subject, Mr. Johnston states: "It is probably true to say that 90 per cent. of the persons who destroy themselves in Weihaiwei as, indeed, in China generally, are women. Precisely the opposite state of affairs has been observed in Europe, where suicide is a phenomenon of which the male sex possesses almost the monopoly" (*see* Chatterton Hill's "Heredity and Selection in Sociology," page 187). Mr. Walter also points out that in Weihaiwei practically no cases of suicide of children occur, whilst in the West such cases are said to show an alarming increase. It is satisfactory to be able to report that the instructions distributed by Government among the villages explaining in the vernacular what should be done in the way of first-aid in cases of poisoning have been, at least on one or two occasions, of practical use.

There has been a marked increase in the number of civil cases in the Court of the District Officer. Of the total of 650 cases heard by him, only 192 were criminal or police cases, the remaining 458 being civil cases. It was formerly the custom for litigants in civil suits to present written petitions drawn up by professional petition-writers, but, as it was discovered that exorbitant fees were charged for such petitions and the writers of them stirred up litigation, the Magistrates refused to receive any petition drawn up by a professional petition-writer, and depended on the oral statement made by each litigant of his case in court, no fee of any kind being charged. But this system has not been found to work well. The absence of all fees has encouraged litigation and induced parties to bring into court family disputes and other cases of a nature which, according to Chinese custom, should be settled by arbitration, and as the ordinary litigant in Weihaiwei is an illiterate peasant he is very rarely capable of giving the court a clear and succinct account of his case. In order to remedy this unsatisfactory state of affairs, provisional Rules of Court have been made under which petition-writers, who are salaried Government officers, have been appointed and attached to the clerical staff of the Magistrates. Their duty is to draw up for the parties to a civil suit a statement of their case in the form of a petition to the Magistrate exercising the jurisdiction of the High Court in civil cases, a fee of $2 being charged for each statement thus prepared. It is hoped that this system, while not deterring persons from prosecuting their reasonable claims in the Courts, will help to effect a reduction in litigation which is either vexatious and unnecessary, or which should be settled by arbitration instead of being brought into Court. In this connexion it is interesting to note that a suggestion has recently been made by Mr. Ameer Ali, one of the leaders of the Mahometan community of India, that the Government of India should be moved to re-establish the arbitration courts which existed in the early part of the nineteenth century for the settlement of family disputes and to induce the ordinary courts of justice to discourage the besetting evil of family litigation.

The number of prisoners sentenced to imprisonment in the Weihaiwei Gaol during 1909 was 157, as compared with 163 in 1908, with a daily average of 28 as compared with a daily average of 26 during the previous year. The general health of the prisoners was excellent, no cases of serious sickness having occurred, and their conduct was very good. They repaired nearly all the roads on the Island during the year and assisted in the work of tree-planting.

It has been usual to send prisoners sentenced to long terms of imprisonment to the gaol in Hong Kong with the consent of the authorities of that Colony. In accordance with this practice, two prisoners, convicted of manslaughter by the High Court and sentenced to two years' imprisonment, were sent to Hong Kong last year. Since 1902, the total number of long-sentence prisoners imprisoned in the gaol at Hong Kong amounts to twelve.

OPIUM.

During the past year every endeavour was made, so far as this territory is concerned, to carry out the policy of His Majesty's Government with regard to opium and to assist China in her task of suppressing the opium habit.

The opium farm, which was vested in a farmer who paid the Government for his privilege a sum of £700 a year, having expired on the 30th June last, an Ordinance was at once introduced prohibiting generally the importation, sale, and smoking of opium, and any other hypnotic, and only allowing an exception on medical grounds in the case of a few licensed vendors, who are permitted to import the drug and to retail it only to persons who produce a doctor's certificate that it is required for medicine. Since the introduction of the Ordinance only two chests of opium have been imported, and the number of shops licensed to sell opium, which to commence with was seven, has been reduced to one. The number of opium smokers holding a medical certificate has been gradually reduced from 220 to 110. At the present moment there are no opium divans in the territory. A refuge for those who desire to rid themselves of the opium habit has been opened under the control of the Medical Officer. There were 31 admissions during the year. All those admitted were at once deprived of the drug, other hypnotics being given as required for the first few nights. Digestive and other symptoms were treated on general principles as they arose. The average stay in the refuge was fourteen days, and all who had been admitted left in good health without any craving for opium. Whether there have been many relapses, it is impossible to say.

As was stated in the Report on this Territory for 1908, public opinion among the Chinese of Weihaiwei is opposed to opium, and the number of smokers is comparatively small. It seems, therefore, reasonable to hope that through the influence of public opinion, supported by the prohibitive legislation which has been introduced, opium smoking will become a rare habit here.

HOSPITALS.

The in-patients treated during the year in the hospital on the Island numbered 23, as compared with 27 in 1908, whilst the out-patients numbered 2,635, as compared with 2,339 in 1908.

At the Port Edward Hospital there were 112 in-patients, as compared with 106 in 1908, and 2,826 out-patients, as compared with 2,347 in 1908.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of both the European and Chinese communities during the year was good. There were five cases of dysentery in the King's Hotel among 45 children resident there during the summer. Three of those cases were severe, and resulted in the death of an infant, ten months old. There was one case of dysentery at Half Moon Bay, and there were three cases of the same disease on the Island, all of which recovered.

It has been suggested that the cases of dysentery in the King's Hotel were due to the water supply, but an analysis of the well from which the water used at the hotel was obtained showed that it was fit for potable purposes. Further, the fact that there were three cases of dysentery in the hotel on the Island where condensed water is used, tends to prove that the disease was not owing to the water supply but was climatic, a view which is also supported by statistics of the health of Europeans in other parts of China about the same time and by reports from Chinese. An outbreak of diphtheria occurred among Chinese in a house on the Island. There were five cases and two deaths before the disease was notified. The remaining three cases, which were severe, were treated with anti-toxin, and all recovered.

There was one case of scarlet fever on the Island, which appears to have been imported from Shanghai.

During the summer a severe epidemic of cholera broke out at Chefoo, the Treaty Port, distant 60 miles by road and 40 miles by sea from Weihaiwei, and the disease gradually spread along the high road from Chefoo to Weihaiwei until it reached several of the villages in this Territory, the nearest affected being situated seven miles from Port Edward. Chefoo was at once declared an infected port, and all native passengers arriving by sea were subjected to medical inspection, whilst the villages infected were visited by a medical officer. Printed instructions regarding the treatment and prevention of cholera were also circulated throughout the Territory by the headmen of the villages. As a result of the precautions taken, the disease did not spread in this Territory and soon disappeared.

The number of vaccinations performed on the mainland during the year amounted to 3,563, as compared with 4,234 in 1908, and on the Island 55, as against 194 in the previous year.

SANITATION.

The sanitary condition of Port Edward and the Island is in a satisfactory condition. The conservancy arrangements on the Island have been undertaken by Government instead of being carried out by a contractor, with the result that the work is now discharged more efficiently. Two new dairies have been built on the Island to take the place of former buildings which were not suitable. Steps are also being taken to cover the wells in use at Port Edward, and to fit them with pumps instead of leaving them open as at present. As was pointed out in last year's report, analysis has shown that the water of these wells is good in every instance except one, the defect in which is being remedied; and it is hoped that by covering them in the manner proposed all risk of pollution will be prevented.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The Meteorological Returns for the year are given in the Appendix.

The highest monthly barometrical average was that of January, 30·660, and the lowest that of July, 29·009.

The highest temperature was 94° F., recorded in July, and the lowest 11°, in January and February.

Rain or snow fell on 81 days, the total rainfall for the year being 33·54 inches. August was the wettest month, with a rainfall of 9·48 inches. In June it rained 4·89 inches and in July 7·33, so that during the three months when Weihaiwei is chiefly frequented by visitors it rained a total of 21·70 inches in 35 days. It is not surprising, therefore, that to visitors, at any rate, Weihaiwei does not appear to be such a dry place as its annual rainfall shows it to be. But the rain soon dries up and, therefore, does not for long prevent people from indulging in their usual outdoor amusements.

POSTAL.

The number of mails received during the year from Shanghai was 457, in 665 bags, containing ordinary correspondence, and 1,722 registered articles and parcels. The number of mails despatched for Shanghai, Chefoo, and Tientsin was 421, in 482 bags, containing ordinary correspondence, and 2,706 registered articles.

Since May last the Post Office has been sending bags by way of Siberia addressed to the General Post Office in London. The number of mails despatched in this manner was 140, in 140 bags, containing 45,094 ordinary letters, 4,106 postcards, and 846 registered articles. The numbers of letters received by way of Siberia was 6,176; of postcards, 306; and registered letters, 95.

The quickest time in which a mail reached here by way of Siberia during the past year was 16 days, or about half the time it requires for a letter to arrive by way of Suez. A resident of Weihaiwei accomplished the journey between London and Weihaiwei in 13½ days, and it seems pretty certain that before long the time now required to complete that journey will be considerably shortened.

The total receipts for the sale of stamps and postal notes during 1909 were as follows:—

	$ cts.
Stamps	5,891.41
Imperial Postal Notes ...	12,917.94
Local ,, ,, ...	6,453.92

LIGHTHOUSES.

The two lighthouses at Flagstaff Point and Chaopeitsui, which are inspected by Engineer-Commander Parker, R.N., have worked very satisfactorily during the year and the lightkeepers have discharged their duties with zeal and efficiency.

GENERAL.

The year 1909 will be memorable in the history of China for the inauguration of Provincial Assemblies, the first important step in a series of reforms intended to introduce into China Constitutional Government.

A register of the electors in this Territory entitled to vote or to become members of the Provincial Assembly was prepared, on which appear the names of about 500 persons. The Provincial Assembly of Shantung, which is composed of 103 members, one of whom is a native and resident of this Territory, was opened on the 14th October by His Excellency Sun Pao-ch'i, the Governor of Shantung, with an address which has been highly commended.

The British fleet, under the command of Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton, was here during the summer months, and is to be congratulated on the excellence of its shooting, in which it proved itself second to none as compared with other fleets in the Navy.

The American fleet, under the command of Rear-Admiral Harber, visited Weihaiwei in August, a visit which was much appreciated by all those afloat and on shore who had the pleasure of extending a hearty welcome to Admiral Harber, his officers, and men. I regret that, owing to my absence on leave in England, I could not take part in that welcome; but Mr. Walter, who was administering the Government, was able to enjoy what I missed.

I visited Chinan, the capital of Shantung, in spring, in order to return the official call paid me by His Excellency Yuan Shu-hsün in the autumn of the previous year. This is the third occasion in which I have paid an official visit to the capital of Shantung, and on each occasion the welcome accorded to me by the Governor and the leading officials has been of the most cordial and friendly nature. Since my visit, His Excellency Yuan Shu-hsün has been promoted to be Governor-General of the two Provinces of Kuangtung and Kuangsi.

On my way to Chinan, I passed through the German Colony of Kiaochou, where my old friend Governor Truppel entertained me with that hospitality for which His Excellency and his countrymen in that Colony are so justly famous.

The number of visitors during the summer was more numerous than in any previous year, nearly all the accommodation available being occupied.

The general state of affairs during the past year may on the whole be regarded with satisfaction. Trade was good, but would be still better if capital could be attracted to the Territory; the farmers were prosperous, having enjoyed bountiful harvests; the health of the public was excellent, no serious epidemic of any kind having occurred, and peace and good order reigned throughout the year, owing to the orderly nature of the inhabitants of Weihaiwei, among whom crime is rare and good behaviour prevalent.

J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Commissioner.

Government House,
Weihaiwei,
15th April, 1910.

APPENDIX.

Meteorological Return for 1909.

1909.	Barometer.				Temperature.						Rain or Snow.	
	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Mean for the Month.	Range.	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Range in the Month.	Mean of all the Highest.	Mean of all the Lowest.	Mean daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount collected.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	°F	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.		Inches.
January	30·660	29·916	30·308	·744	49	11	38	36	19	17	9 (7 snow)	·60
February	30·482	29·886	30·206	·596	52	11	41	39	19	20	7 snow	·11
March	30·566	29·802	30·226	·764	58	19	39	44	25	19	5 (3 snow)	·68
April	30·238	29·020	29·882	1·218	83	26	57	65	38	27	3	3·92
May	30·220	29·075	30·336	1·145	84	40	44	66	44	22	1	·06
June	30·000	29·592	29·803	·408	92	47	45	79	57	22	5	4·89
July	30·038	29·009	29·804	1·029	94	52	42	83	64	19	14	7·33
August...	29·980	29·505	29·780	·475	90	64	26	81	66	15	16	9·48
September	30·220	29·674	30·327	·546	89	52	37	78	58	20	4	·87
October	30·386	30·010	30·190	·376	81	36	45	69	48	21	5	2·30
November	30·466	29·900	30·218	·566	71	16	55	58	35	23	11 (2 snow)	2·15
December	30·540	29·798	30·361	·742	55	13	42	42	25	17	1	1·15
Mean	30·316	29·598	30·120	·717	74	32	42	61	41	20	81*	*33·54

* Total.

23rd January, 1909 : Earthquake shock, 7.50 p.m.

Port Edward,
Weihaiwei

W. M. Muat, M.B.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
604	Ceylon	1908
605	Weihaiwei	"
606	Seychelles	"
607	Jamaica	1907–1908
608	Colonial Survey Committee	1908–1909
609	Gambia	1908
610	Malta	1908–1909
611	Sierra Leone	1908
612	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
613	Gold Coast	"
614	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1908–1909
615	Bahamas	"
616	St. Lucia	1908
617	Hong Kong	"
618	Fiji	"
619	Nyasaland	1908–1909
620	Barbados	"
621	Trinidad and Tobago	"
622	Straits Settlements...	1908
623	Somaliland	1908–1909
624	Mauritius	1908
625	St. Vincent	1908–1909
626	Jamaica	"
627	Swaziland	"
628	Grenada	1908
629	Leeward Islands	1908–1909
630	Southern Nigeria	1908
631	British Honduras	"
632	British Guiana	1908–1909
633	Northern Nigeria	"
634	Basutoland	"
635	East Africa Protectorate	"
636	Uganda	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
62	Uganda	Cotton Industry.
63	Imperial Institute	Gums and Resins
64	Uganda	Botany and Forestry.
65	Do.	Sleeping Sickness.
66	Gold Coast	Forests.
67	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
68	Do. do.	Do. do. 1906–7.
69	St. Helena	Fisheries.
70	Colonies	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 678.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1910.

(For Report for 1909, *see* No. 637.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

June, 1911.

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No. 678.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1909, *see* No. 637.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
10th May, 1911.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the Territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1910.

I have, &c.,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.
&c., &c., &c.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $75,278, as compared with $83,499 during the previous year. The expenditure during the year amounted to $145,028, as compared with $145,687, the expenditure of the previous year.

The following are the heads of revenue and expenditure for last year, as compared with those of the previous year:—

Revenue.

Head.	$ 1909-10.	$ 1910-11.
Licences and Internal Revenue ...	58,403	50,495
Fees of Court	3,426	4,787
Rents of Government Property, Land, and Houses	18,838	17,616
Interest and Miscellaneous	2,832	2,380
Total ...	83,499	75,278

Expenditure.

Head.	1909-10. $	1910-11. $
Commissioner's Establishment ...	25,586	25,154
Secretary to Government	14,796	14,243
District Officer	8,610	8,346
Police and Gaol	26,427	27,022
Medical and Sanitary	16,930	16,398
Public Works Department	2,738	2,360
Public Works	19,118	19,613
Forestry Department	2,015	2,187
Miscellaneous Services	29,467	29,705
Total ...	145,687	145,028

The total revenue and expenditure for the last five years are as follows:—

Years.	Revenue. $	Expenditure. $
1906-7	76,777	160,973
1907-8	80,331	173,340
1908-9	83,277	168,740
1909-10	83,499	145,687
1910-11	75,278	145,028

The deficit each year has been met by a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds, which has been as follows during the past five years:—

Years.	Amount. £
1906-7	4,500
1907-8	10,000
1908-9	10,000
1909-10	4,400
1910-11	5,000

PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of any importance were carried out during the year.

Roads were maintained in a satisfactory condition, and extensions were made to the village roads. A road from the headquarters of the District Officer at Wên Ch'üan T'ang was commenced and when it is finished it will form a useful link between Wên Ch'üan T'ang and outlying villages. The villagers still continue to show their interest in village roads by subscribing money towards them or by giving their labour or land free of cost.

Many of the buildings belonging to Government which were not originally well or solidly built are showing signs of rapid deterioration, which will probably necessitate a good deal of outlay for repairs in the near future. One of these buildings, used as an opium refuge, collapsed during the rain in July and had to be rebuilt.

POLICE.

The total strength of the force was 3 European inspectors, 3 Chinese sergeants, and 52 constables.

The population of the Territory is estimated at 150,000, mostly Chinese, who inhabit 300 villages spread over an area of 285 square miles, so that there is about an average of one policeman to 3,000 of the population.

The Territory possesses no other local force, with the exception of a few marines, on which it could depend in the case of an emergency. The fact that such a small force is found sufficient for ordinary requirements shows how orderly and well-behaved the inhabitants of this Territory are.

The health and behaviour of the police were excellent. There were no cases of serious sickness or misconduct. There were only two resignations on completion of the period of engagement. An application was received from the Chinese members of the force for an increase of pay on account of the rise in the cost of living. Their application was recommended for the favourable consideration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies and was approved, the rates of pay sanctioned being the same as those of the Hong Kong police, who can, however, unlike the police of this Territory, earn a pension.

FIRE BRIGADE.

Only two small fires occurred during the year on the Mainland, which were extinguished by the fire brigade before any serious damage was done.

The system of fire alarms has been carried out regularly during the year, and the volunteer fire brigade on the Island and Mainland have turned out promptly and in full numbers.

TRADE.

The general trade of the Territory remained much the same as during the previous year.

The principal exports were ground-nuts and ground-nut seeds, most of which were sent to Hong Kong direct. The following are the figures for the last three years:—

—	1908.	1909.	1910.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Ground-nuts	16,000	39,600	6,893
Ground-nut seeds	60,753	100,700	141,293

A picul = 133⅓ lbs.

From the above figures it will seen that the tendency is for the export of ground-nuts to decrease and for that of ground-nut seeds to increase. This is easily explained by the greater cheapness in freight of the latter and also by the fact that the European market has little or no use for the shell of the ground-nut.

There was practically no export of salt during the year.

21,342 cases of Devoe's Brilliant Brand and 6,764 cases of Tiger Brand oil, as compared with 22,466 cases and 6,784 cases in 1909, were imported by the Standard Oil Company from their godowns in Chefoo. No Sumatra oil was imported.

The shark-fishing industry, which has been carried on by the Japanese since 1908, was continued during the year from June to October. Ten boats were engaged in this business, as compared with nineteen in 1909.

Proposals were made during the year to establish a bean mill with a view to developing the growth of the Soya bean, the oil of which is held to be of great value, but no mill has yet been established.

The agents of the shipping and banking firms removed their headquarters from the Island to Port Edward, a change which is much appreciated by native shippers on account of its convenience and the saving of expenditure.

SHIPPING.

The total number of steamers that called here during the year was 529, with a total net tonnage of 450,000 tons, as compared with 567 steamers with a total net tonnage of 481,291 tons in 1909. Of the steamers that called 307 were British, including three steamers of the P. & O. line, two were German, and the remainder consisted of 220 small Chinese and Japanese coasting steamers plying between this port and Chefoo, the total net tonnage of which was 27,000 tons.

AFFORESTATION.

400,000 fir trees were planted out on the Island during the year, as compared with 50,000 in 1909. The whole of the south of the Island has now been planted with fir trees, and it is hoped that the northern side will be similarly planted by the end of 1912.

LEGISLATION.

Two Ordinances were passed after having been approved, viz.:
"The Children and Juvenile Offenders Ordinance, 1910."
"The Census Ordinance, 1910."

EDUCATION.

The average attendance at the Government Free School during the year was 46, as compared with 51 in 1909. The school is now regularly inspected by the Medical Officer, with the result that there has been a considerable diminution in the number of pupils who absent themselves on the plea of some trivial indisposition.

The average number of pupils in the Anglo-Chinese School managed by the Rev. A. E. Burne was 25, as compared with 20 in 1909. This school provides a good grounding in elementary mathematics, English, history, and geography, and the Chinese classics are taught thoroughly.

At the Mission School under the management of Mr. Ward Wilson, the attendance averaged 20, as compared with 22 in the previous year. The education given in this school is purely Chinese. Elementary English, which was taught in former years, has been discontinued, as it has been realised that a purely Chinese education is more desirable in a territory the population of which is almost entirely agricultural, to the members of which a smattering of English is neither edifying nor useful.

There was a small decrease in the attendance at Father Hallam's school for young boys, the number being 7, as compared with 10 last year.

The school for girls founded by Mrs. Case and now carried on by Mrs. Hill had an average attendance of 24. In this school all the girls have their feet unbound.

The school for girls established by the Anti-Foot Binding Society was attended by 17 scholars.

The day school for girls started in 1908 by the Franciscan Sisters was closed during the year, but has been re-opened. To this school is attached a needlework room for Chinese girls which is so popular that many applications for admission have had to be refused owing to insufficient accommodation.

The Weihaiwei school for European boys kept by Mr. Beer had another successful year, the numbers having risen from 51 to 55.

The attendance at the Free School for Chinese boys on the Island, established and maintained by Mr. Duncan Clark, had an average attendance of 15, compared with 8 in 1909.

As regards village schools in the Territory, the people have voluntarily agreed to levy a small tax on theatrical performances and to expend the money so raised on scholarships, which it is hoped will give a stimulus to education in the villages.

From time to time proposals are made to convert a temple into a school and to devote the revenue derived from the land attached to the temple to defraying the salary of a teacher. But great care has to be taken in such cases not to interfere with time-honoured prejudices, or to assent too readily to a scheme which may be intended to promote individual and not public interests. In some cases inquiry has resulted in the Government acquiescing in the conversion of a temple into a school, but in other instances, inquiry having clearly proved that such conversion is not really desired by the great majority of those interested in the temple, the Government has refused to give its sanction.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

There were altogether 743 convictions during the year, as compared with 754 in 1909. The total number of civil cases was 432, 80 of which were heard by the Magistrate at Port Edward and 352 by the District Officer at Wên Ch'üan T'ang.

As in previous years there was a marked absence of crime of a serious nature. Only one case was tried by the High Court, in which the offender, who was found guilty of robbery, was sentenced to penal servitude for three years.

Gambling cases amounted to 171, which shows a considerable reduction as compared with 1909, when there were 266 cases.

Suicides were more numerous than last year, the figures for this year being 90, as compared with 40 last year. Of these 65 were females and 25 males.

In the Report for last year, attention was called to the fact, that in this Territory 90 per cent. of the persons who destroy themselves are females, and that, as a rule, no case of suicide among young people occurs, whilst such cases are said to be increasing in the West. It will be observed that the suicides last year show a larger proportion of males than usual, and among them there was the suicide of a boy aged 15. He appears to have run away from home, but was brought back before he had gone very far. The "loss of face" caused by his failure to effect his object and the ridicule poured upon him by the village urchins, on account of his enforced return, drove him to hang himself. This case is an illustration of the slight cause which will induce Chinese to take their own lives.

Civil cases amounted to 432, as compared with 650 last year. This diminution is probably due to the institution of Court fees, to which reference was made in the Report for last year. Formerly litigants in civil suits had not to pay any fees, but under the new Rules of Court which have been introduced, a fee is now charged for the statements in each case, which are in the form of a Chinese petition. The petitions are prepared by a salaried officer of the Government, over whom a strict supervision is exercised by the Magistrates. The fees collected during the year under the new Rules of Court amounted to $1,734.

Two civil cases were heard by the Judge of the High Court: all the other civil cases were heard by the Magistrates exercising the jurisdiction of the High Court.

GAOL.

The number of prisoners sentenced to imprisonment was 115 males and 11 females, making a total of 126, as compared with 157 in 1909, which is a very small number out of an estimated population of 150,000.

The health of the prisoners was excellent. There were no serious cases of sickness and no deaths, the ailments treated being all of a very trivial character. These satisfactory results are no doubt due to the strong constitution of the prisoners, aided by the sanitary surroundings in which they live, the plain diet they receive, and the regular work and discipline to which they are subjected.

OPIUM.

During the past year, the importation, sale, and smoking of opium were discouraged in every possible way. In 1909 the number of licensed smokers was reduced from 220 to 110, and during 1910 the number has been still further reduced to 50. During 1909 the admissions to the Refuge established by the Government for those desirous of abandoning the opium habit amounted to 31, whilst during last year they rose to 70, the ages of those admitted ranging from 24 to 74. The Police were very active in discovering the illicit smoking and sale of opium, there having been during the year 135 convictions for breaches of the Opium Ordinance. This activity on the part of the Police was naturally unpopular among those who have been accustomed to smoke opium, and led to the publication in certain Chinese newspapers printed in Manchuria, Chefoo, and Shanghai of serious libellous charges against this Government and its Police, who were accused of extortion and maltreatment of the Chinese, especially the female population. Steps were taken to bring to justice those responsible for the publication of the libels, with the result that in some cases a fine was imposed, in others the publication of the paper was suspended for a certain period, whilst all the papers published an apology, retracting the libellous and unfounded statements to which they had given currency.

No opium was imported under licence during the year, and only one shop was licensed to sell opium. It may be impossible to prevent entirely the smuggling of opium into this Territory across the border or along the coast, but as every step possible is being taken to discourage the use of opium, and as public opinion among the Chinese of Weihaiwei is, if anything, more than ever firmly set against the opium habit, there seems every reason to hope that opium smoking will become even a rarer habit than it is at present. But the diminution in the use of opium seems to be leading to an excessive use of alcohol, and though drunkenness cannot yet be said to be a prevalent vice cases of intoxication are undoubtedly more numerous than in previous years.

HOSPITALS.

The in-patients treated during the year in the hospital on the Island numbered 16, as compared with 23 in 1909, whilst the out-patients numbered 2,277, as compared with 2,635 in 1909.

At the Port Edward Hospital there were 97 in-patients, as compared with 112 in 1909, and 3,063 out-patients, as compared with 2,826 in 1909.

The number of operations amounted to 123.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health during the year among both Europeans and Chinese was very good. There was an outbreak of measles on the Island and Mainland during the spring among the Chinese, but the type was of a mild nature and few cases proved fatal.

There were two cases of scarlet-fever, probably imported from Chefoo, and one case of enteric-fever.

Dysentery was not at all prevalent. One European child died of that disease; all the other cases were of a mild form.

Two cases of small-pox occurred, one on the Island, the other, imported from Chefoo, on the Mainland. The general vaccination of the inhabitants of the Territory, which is carried out every year throughout all the villages, may account to a great extent for the small number of cases of small-pox.

The number of vaccinations performed on the Mainland during the year was 3,696, as compared with 3,563 in 1909, and on the Island 77, as compared with 55 in the previous year.

PLAGUE.

The outbreak of plague in Manchuria caused much anxiety towards the end of the year, as many Chinese who emigrate from Weihaiwei to Manchuria are in the habit of returning to their homes to celebrate the Chinese New Year, and it was feared that infection might be introduced through them. This Territory has a land frontier extending over 34 miles and a coast line over 60 miles in length, so that to effectively prevent the introduction of disease would require a much larger staff than this Government possesses, and would necessitate the employment of many craft afloat, which are not available. But every precaution possible under the circumstances was taken, and though the disease spread to Chefoo, distant from Weihaiwei 60 miles by land and 40 miles by sea, and reached other towns and villages between this Territory and Chefoo, Weihaiwei has up to the present time been fortunate enough to escape with only one case, which was imported and which proved fatal. The patient was nursed by the Lady Superior of the Franciscan Sisters, who all bravely and nobly volunteered their services as nurses in the event of an outbreak of plague.

A campaign has been instituted against rats, but to judge from the number caught, only 1,200 up to date, it seems that rats are not plentiful in this Territory. All those examined microscopically have been found free from the plague bacillus.

SANITATION.

The sanitary condition of Port Edward and the Island continues to be satisfactory. The wells at Port Edward have been covered and fitted with pumps. The Chinese did not at first take kindly to the pumps but they now appreciate their convenience. The dairies and abattoir have been carefully inspected and conservancy arrangements have worked well and been carried out efficiently.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The Meteorological Returns for the year are given in the Appendix.

The highest monthly barometrical average was that of December, 30·626, and the lowest that of August, 29·354.

The highest temperature recorded was 91° for June and July, and the lowest 2° in January and February.

Rain and snow fell on 74 days, the annual rainfall being 36·18 inches. July was the wettest month, with a rainfall of 10·63 inches.

POSTAL.

The number of mails recived during the year from Shanghai, Chefoo, and Tientsin was 493, made up of 753 bags, which, besides ordinary correspondence, consisted of 1,750 registered articles and parcels.

The number of mails despatched for Shanghai, Chefoo, and Tientsin was 562, composed of 652 bags, which, besides ordinary correspondence, was made up of 2,344 registered articles and parcels.

The number of letters received by way of Siberia was 10,364, and postcards 362, exclusive of 32 bags for the Fleet.

The letters sent *viâ* Siberia to Weihaiwei are enclosed in bags addressed to Chefoo, from which port the letters for Weihaiwei are forwarded after the bags have been opened.

The number of mails despatched in closed bags by way of Siberia to the General Post Office in London was 254, composed of 54,434 ordinary letters, 5,179 postcards, and 701 registered articles.

The quickest time in which a mail reached here from London by way of Siberia during the past year was 16 days.

The total receipts for the sale of postage stamps and postal notes were as follows:—

	$ cts.
Stamps	6,226.21
Imperial Postal Notes... ...	18,703.80
Local ,, ,, ...	4,733.79
Total	29,663.80

or an increase as compared with the year 1909 of $4,400.53.

LIGHTHOUSES.

The working of the tower apparatus of the two lighthouses at Flagstaff Point and Chao Pei Tsui has been satisfactory throughout the year. Since the repairs and renewals effected in 1909, only minor adjustments of the mechanism have been necessary, and these have been carried out under the orders of Engineer Commander Parker, R.N., to whom this Government is indebted for the generally efficient condition in which the lighthouses are maintained.

GENERAL.

The sudden news of the death of His late Majesty King Edward on the 6th of May last, came as a great shock to this community, which was not even aware that His Majesty was ill, and caused great grief among the residents of this territory.

His Majesty King George V. was proclaimed by the Commissioner on Monday, the 9th of May, at Government House, the ceremony being attended by all the leading members of the community and representatives of His Majesty's ships in harbour.

The special memorial service held on the 20th of May in the Queen's Hall on the Island was crowded. Among those present was His Excellency Sun Pao-ch'i, Governor of the Province of Shantung, who was attended by a numerous staff of high Chinese officials. His Excellency arrived in a Chinese man-of-war, which joined with His Majesty's ships in the firing of minute guns at the conclusion of the memorial service.

The gloom cast over this Territory by the death of King Edward was further heightened by the sad loss of H.M.S. Bedford, the officers and men of which were great favourites at Weihaiwei.

The British fleet, under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Alfred Winsloe, was at Weihaiwei during the greater part of the summer, and fully maintained the high reputation for gunnery which the British fleet on the China station has so justly enjoyed ever since it has carried out its gunnery practices in the waters of this territory.

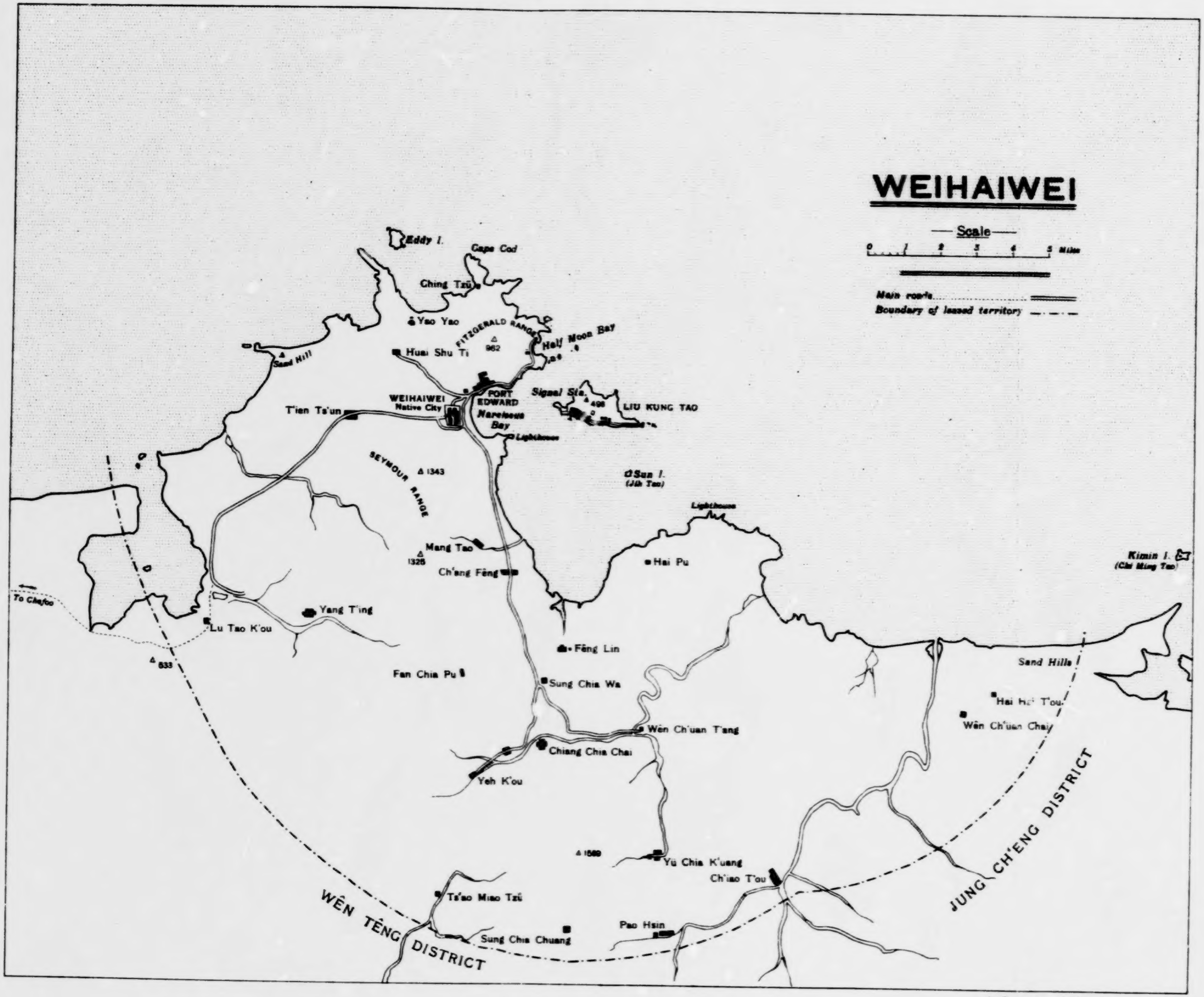
The Commissioner returned the visit of His Excellency the Governor of Shantung in the autumn, and was entertained in the most hospitable and friendly manner by his genial host and the other high officials at the capital of the Province who spared no pains to make his visit in every way a pleasant one. He was treated most kindly by the various officials in the Province through whose jurisdiction he passed on his way to the capital.

The number of visitors during the summer months was fully as great as in previous years.

On the whole the local history of Weihaihei during the past year was not marked by any exceptional circumstances, but trade was fair, harvests were good, and the Chinese population continued to show signs of increasing prosperity.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

Government House,
Weihaiwei,
10th May, 1911.



Ordnance Survey Office Southampton, 1911.

APPENDIX.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN, 1910.

1910.	Barometer.				Temperature.						Rain or Snow.	
	Highest in Month.	Lowest in Month.	Mean for Month.	Range.	Highest in Month.	Lowest in Month.	Range in Month.	Mean of Highest.	Mean of Lowest.	Mean daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount collected.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.		Inches.
January	30·500	29·840	30·219	·660	49	2	47	36	17	19	6 (4 snow)	·78
February	30·600	29·860	30·253	·740	52	2	50	41	17	24	1 (snow)	·00
March	30·414	29·760	30·162	·654	62	17	45	48	25	23	2	·80
April	30·408	29·816	30·075	·592	72	24	48	58	36	22	2	·68
May	30·228	29·554	29·948	·674	90	35	55	75	49	26	1	·07
June	29·926	29·426	29·739	·500	91	46	45	80	56	24	9	5·02
July	29·936	29·462	29·731	·474	91	58	33	83	63	20	15	10·63
August	29·980	29·354	29·782	·626	90	60	30	84	65	19	11	7·67
September	30·350	29·800	30·049	·550	81	51	30	76	58	18	4	·55
October	30·430	29·962	30·220	·468	78	41	37	69	48	21	1	·05
November	30·482	29·496	30·185	·986	71	21	50	54	35	19	14 (2 snow)	9·18
December	30·626	29·940	30·332	·686	45	8	37	36	19	17	8 (7 snow)	·75
Mean	30·323	29·689	30·058	·634	73	30	42	62	40	21	74*	36·18*

* Totals. Halley's Comet seen 3 a.m., 12th May, 1910.

Port Edward,
Weihaiwei.

W. M. MUAT, M.B.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
641	Gambia	1909
642	Malta	1909–1910
643	Seychelles	1909
644	Colonial Survey Committee	1909–1910
645	Falkland Islands	"
646	Turks and Caicos Islands	1909
647	Gibraltar	"
648	Sierra Leone	"
649	Somaliland	1909–1910
650	Bahamas	"
651	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
652	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
653	Ceylon	1909
654	Gold Coast	"
655	Nyasaland	1909–1910
656	Imperial Institute	1909
657	Fiji	"
658	Grenada	"
659	Hong Kong	"
660	Barbados	1909–1910
661	Swaziland	1909
662	Jamaica	"
663	Straits Settlements	"
664	Trinidad and Tobago	1909–1910
665	Southern Nigeria	1909
666	Mauritius	"
667	British Honduras	"
668	St. Vincent	1909–1910
669	East Africa Protectorate	"
670	Uganda	"
671	British Guiana	"
672	St. Lucia	1909
673	Leeward Islands	1909–1910
674	Northern Nigeria	1909
675	St. Helena	1910
676	Gibraltar	"
677	Basutoland	1909–1910

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
70	Colonies	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey 1906-7 and 1907-8.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8.

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1911.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 715.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1911.

(For Report for 1910, *see* No. 678.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
June, 1912.

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No. 715.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1910, *see* No. 678.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
18th May, 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the Territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1911.

I have, &c.,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(24824—2.) Wt. 29478—571. 1125 & 90. 6/12. D & S. A 2

FINANCIAL.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $74,673, as compared with $75,353 during the previous year. The expenditure during the year amounted to $153,591, as compared with $145,028, the expenditure of the previous year.

The increase in expenditure during 1911 was chiefly due to the following items:—

	$
New Gaol	3,180
Plague	2,051
Census	1,674

The following are the heads of revenue and expenditure for last year, as compared with those of the previous year:—

Revenue.

Head.	1910-11. $	1911-12. $
Licences and Internal Revenue ...	50,495	50,855
Fees of Court	4,787	4,630
Rents of Government Property, Land and Houses	17,616	17,103
Interest and Miscellaneous ...	2,455	2,085
Total	75,353	74,673

Expenditure.

Head.	1910-11. $	1911-12. $
Commissioner's Establishment ...	25,154	24,695
Secretary to Government	14,243	12,921
District Officer	8,346	8,484
Police and Gaol	27,022	25,907
Medical and Sanitary	16,398	17,422
Public Works Department ...	2,360	2,393
Public Works	19,613	23,417
Forestry Department	2,187	2,040
Miscellaneous Services	29,705	36,312
Total	145,028	153,591

The total revenue and expenditure for the last five years are as follows:—

Years.	Revenue. $	Expenditure. $
1907-8	80,331	173,340
1908-9	83,277	168,740
1909-10	83,499	145,687
1910-11	75,353	145,028
1911-12	74,673	153,591

The deficit each year has been met by a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds, which has been as follows during the past five years:—

Years.	Amount. £
1907-8	10,000
1908-9	10,000
1909-10	4,400
1910-11	5,000
1911-12	6,000

CENSUS.

A census of the population of the Territory was taken in the early part of last year by Mr. Carpmael, acting as Census Officer. The total population was found to be 147,177, made up as follows:—

	Male.	Female.
Chinese	77,656	69,184
Other Nationalities	204	89

Full details regarding the census are given in the Report by Mr. Carpmael presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of His Majesty [Cd. 5897].

PUBLIC WORKS.

The only public work of any importance carried out during the year was the erection of a new gaol. It is in every way superior to the old building, which was not suitable for long-sentence prisoners, who had to be sent to Hong Kong to undergo their terms of imprisonment in the gaol of that Colony. In future such prisoners will be imprisoned at Weihaiwei, which will save the trouble and expense of sending them to Hong Kong. Owing to want of accommodation in the old gaol, the warders have had to reside outside the gaol, which is not a satisfactory arrangement. It is now proposed to convert the old gaol, which adjoins the new building, into quarters for warders.

No extension to the main roads was made during 1911, but they were all kept in a good state of repair, and the coast road was re-metalled up to the sixth milestone. Existing village roads were maintained in a satisfactory condition and further extensions were made. Village roads now cover a distance of about 28 miles, and the villagers continue to show their appreciation of the improved means of communication between their villages and the main roads by supplementing the grant made by Government, either by giving their labour free of charge or by subscribing money. The Government is much indebted to Mr. Liang Tê-jang for the public-spirited interest he has shown in village roads, for the unremunerated trouble he has taken to supervise their construction, and for the successful manner in which he has persuaded the villagers to co-operate with him in their extension.

POLIÇE.

The total strength of the force was 3 European inspectors, 3 Chinese sergeants, and 52 constables.

The population of the Territory as ascertained at the census taken in 1911 is, as has been stated, 147,177, and is distributed among 320 villages, spread over an area of 285 square miles. The permanent police force, therefore, gives an average of one policeman to four or five villages, or to 2,830 of the population. As has been frequently pointed out in previous Reports, the reason why it has been possible to maintain peace and good order with such a small police force is entirely due to the peaceable and law-abiding disposition of the inhabitants of this Territory. It is possible that altered political and social conditions in China may react upon the people of Weihaiwei, in which case the task of governing and controlling them may become less easy and pleasant than it has been hitherto, and an increase in the present number of the permanent police force may become necessary.

As a result of the disturbed state of China in the immediate neighbourhood of this Territory towards the end of the year, some additional temporary constables had to be added to the police force, and village watchmen were appointed and paid by the villagers themselves in many of the villages of the Territory. The appointment of these watchmen had a good effect and resulted in the arrest of several suspicious characters and the disappearance from the Territory of some notoriously bad characters, for whose arrest rewards had been offered.

The police have behaved well, the only punishments inflicted on them being for petty breaches of discipline, except in the case of three constables who were dismissed for graver misconduct. The usual musketry training took place during the summer. The number of marksmen and first-class shots was 67 per cent. Ten constables were trained in the use of the machine gun. The health of the men was excellent, the admissions to hospital for the year being below 2 per cent.

FIRE BRIGADE.

The volunteer fire brigade continues to give every satisfaction. Its services were required four times during the year to extinguish fires, which were not of a serious nature.

TRADE.

The general trade of the Territory was not so good as during the previous year. The Chinese erected during the year a good deal of additional godown accommodation, which indicates that they expect an increase of trade.

The principal exports were, as in recent years, ground-nuts and ground-nut seeds. The following are the figures for 1910 and 1911:—

	1910. Piculs.	1911. Piculs.
Ground-nuts	6,893	9,190
Ground-nut Seed	141,293	142,961

A picul = 133⅓ lbs.

Only seven boats were engaged in shark fishing during 1911, as compared with 10 in 1910.

SHIPPING.

The total number of steamers that called here during the year was 615, with a total net tonnage of 519,399, as compared with 529 steamers, with a total net tonnage of 450,000 tons, in 1910. These figures include 193 small Chinese and Japanese coasting steamers which ply between Weihaiwei and Chefoo, the total net tonnage of which was 28,035.

EDUCATION.

The average attendance at the Government Free School during the year under review was 60, as compared with 46 and 51 in 1910 and 1909 respectively. The Chinese essays of the pupils not infrequently give evidence of independence of thought and a fair capacity for lucid expression. They also indicate the existence of a sturdy patriotism, and a tendency to take a keen interest in the political condition of China—a tendency which was visible long before the outbreak of the revolution in China.

The average number of pupils in the Anglo-Chinese School was 13, as compared with 20 in 1910. This school is now under the management of the Rev. C. R. Burnett, who succeeded the Rev. A. E. Burne. In addition to a good all-round education in Chinese and English, athletics also form a regular part of the school training—tennis and cricket during the summer and football during the winter months—and the boys are drilled three times a week.

At the Mission School, under the management of Mr. Ward Wilson, the attendance averaged 20, which is the same as that of the preceding year. During the earlier part of the year the school was closed on account of the plague scare, but it was reopened during the later part of the year. In this school special attention is paid to arithmetic and geography.

The school for Chinese girls, under Mrs. Hill, had an average attendance of 15, as compared with 24 in 1910.

There are three educational institutions under the guidance of the Roman Catholic Franciscan Mission. The first is the St. Joseph's School, under Father Hallam, with seven pupils, in which the subjects taught are elementary Chinese and Christian doctrine. The second is the Convent School for foreign (*i.e.*, non-Chinese) girls with 10 pupils. The third is the Convent native girls workroom where 35 Chinese girls are taught needlework and Christian doctrine. The two latter institutions are under the guidance of the Franciscan Sisters.

The Weihaiwei School for European boys kept by Mr. Beer has maintained its reputation, the number of pupils in attendance being 43. The excellent health of the boys is, no doubt, partly due to the good climate of Weihaiwei, but credit must also be given to the wise measures taken by the staff to provide the boys with suitable out-door recreation. Football in winter, swimming and boating in summer are the prevalent forms of sport, but a rival form of exercise and training is provided by scouting. The school is the home of the First North China Troop of Boy Scouts, the smartness and efficiency of which are worthy of all praise.

The free school for Chinese boys on the Island has been discontinued for the present, but there is a movement on foot to start another school of a similar nature.

The school for girls established by the Anti-Footbinding Society was attended by 25 scholars, as compared with 17 in 1910. Many of the girls attending this school still have bound feet. The evils of the practice of footbinding are recognised by the more intelligent people of the Territory, but so long as parents have reason to fear that the matrimonial prospects of their daughters will be adversely affected by abandonment of the practice the custom is not likely to be abolished.

It was observed in the Annual Report for 1910 that the people of the Territory had voluntarily agreed to levy a small tax on theatrical performances in order to raise a fund to be used for the improvement of the standard of education in village schools. A sum of about $764 was raised in this manner during 1911. An examination, open to all pupils attending village schools, was held by the Government, and prizes and scholarships were awarded to those who acquitted themselves with distinction. Rewards were also given to the schoolmasters who were responsible for the education of the successful pupils. It is hoped that these measures will increase public interest in education, stimulate the energy of both teachers and scholars, and heighten the standard of education in village schools, which is very low.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

There were 786 convictions in 1911 as compared with 743 in 1910 and 754 in 1909.

Two cases of housebreaking were tried by the High Court. In one the offender, who had been before the court on three previous occasions and imprisoned for terms varying from one to three years, was sentenced to eight years' penal servitude: in the other, the sentence was three years' penal servitude.

Towards the end of December an exceptionally daring piracy was committed in the waters of the harbour. A band of six pirates, armed with pistols and knives, boarded a large junk which was lying at anchor at a short distance from Port Edward Pier, overpowered the crew and sailed the junk out of British waters. One of the captive crew was sent back by the pirates to Port Edward with a message to the effect that if a ransom of $3,000 was not brought to a certain place in Chinese territory within three days the remainder of the captive crew would be killed and the junk burned. As soon as news of this outrage was received a launch which happened to have steam up was manned with a party of armed police and sent in pursuit of the pirates, who, being overtaken, tried to effect their escape by swimming ashore. But before they jumped overboard they deliberately shot and killed one of their captives. Three of the pirates were drowned in attempting to escape, the remaining three were captured. As they had committed a murder in Chinese waters, in which their arrest was effected, they were handed over, after a full preliminary examination had been held by the magistrate at Port Edward, to the Chinese authorities at Chefoo, by whom they were condemned to death and publicly shot.

Gambling was responsible for no fewer than 308 of the convictions, though the District Officer reports that on the whole gambling is slowly but steadily decreasing in spite of its prevalence along the frontier of the Territory.

Suicides continue to be numerous. Ninety-four cases were reported, of which 31 were men and 63 women, females as in previous years showing a preponderance. The figures for 1910 were 90, 25 males and 65 females.

In addition to the above cases of suicide which were fatal, there were 32 cases of attempted suicide in which life was saved through an early report having been made to the District Officer and prompt aid having been rendered by the Chinese medical assistant, who is now stationed at the District Officer's headquarters at Wênch'uant'ang. There was formerly great delay on the part of the people in reporting cases of attempted suicide, but owing to the steps taken to impress upon the headmen of villages the necessity of obtaining remedies or calling in medical assistance at once instead of waiting until the patient is actually *in extremis* many cases of attempted suicide are now saved which would formerly have terminated fatally.

The total number of civil cases was 439 as compared with 432 in 1910, 93 of which cases were tried by the magistrate at Port Edward and 346 by the District Officer at Wênch'uant'ang. The fees collected in civil cases during the year under the Rules of Court amounted to $1,704 as compared with $1,734 in 1910.

No civil cases were heard by the Judge of the High Court, all the civil cases during the year having been heard by the magistrates exercising the jurisdiction of the High Court.

LEGISLATION.

Three Ordinances were passed during the year.

No. 1.—An Ordinance to control the posting and exhibiting of notices and advertisements.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to relieve the Public Trustee from entering administration bonds.

No. 3.—An Ordinance to regulate public cinematograph displays.

Ordinance No. 1, which is based on the Imperial Advertisement Act of 1907, was introduced to check the increasing practice of posting, regardless of surroundings, unsightly advertisements which often resulted in destroying or marring the natural beauty of a scene. Even the picturesque effect of one of the towers on the wall of the City of Weihaiwei was destroyed by a hideous advertisement until it was removed by order of the City Magistrate. The Chinese are great lovers of natural beauty, and its unnecessary defacement is quite as distasteful to them as to other races. There was, therefore, no difficulty in inducing the magistrate, who also happens to be an artist, to have the eyesore on the tower of the City wall removed. Since the introduction of the Ordinance advertisements have been confined to places where they can fulfil their legitimate object without offending the eye or the natural beauty and peaceful charm of the countryside.

LIGHTHOUSES.

The working of the two lighthouses during the year has been satisfactory. Engineer Commander Harris, R.N., was appointed Inspector of Lighthouses in place of Engineer Commander Parker, who returned to England on the expiry of his term of service at Weihaiwei. This Government is much indebted to Engineer Commander Parker for the very efficient condition in which the lighthouses were maintained under his inspection.

AGRICULTURAL AND AFFORESTATION.

Since the lease of this Territory by Great Britain in 1898, the crops have been uniformly good. But the year 1911, though not very bad, was the worst year experienced under British rule. The spring wheat was above the average, but the autumn crops were generally poor. The bean crop was especially bad, its yield being a half to a quarter of the usual return. The reason for the unsatisfactory nature of the crops was owing not so much to an excessive rainfall as to a continuous succession of rainy days. For example, in the period from the 5th to the 20th of July there were twelve days of continuous rain, and as this gave no time for the water to drain off, the crops, especially beans in low-lying or badly-drained fields, were submerged, and suffered so badly that the early promise they gave in early June was not fulfilled.

The silk crop was the largest that is remembered. Silkworms were singularly free from disease, and a very high percentage formed cocoons. Owing, however, to the large number of silkworms that survived, the supply of the scrub oak leaves on which they feed fell short and the cocoons were smaller than usual. On account of this fact and the stagnation of trade at Chefoo, due to the unrest in China, the price of cocoons fell to half the usual sum obtained. But as four times the usual number of cocoons were collected the people received about twice the ordinary return for their labour.

The pine moth (*Gastropacha Pini*) continued its ravages on the fir plantations in this Territory, though the Government plantations escaped. Though the plantations did not suffer quite so badly as in 1910, yet whole hillsides were laid bare by this pest. There are indications that, owing to the increase of *Ichneumona* and other parasites which prey on the caterpillar of the pine moth, the damage this year is likely to be less than in the two previous years.

250,000 fir trees were planted out on the Island during the year, which brings the total of trees planted between the years 1907 and 1911 up to 1,200,000. The south, west, and part of the north of the Island have now been dealt with, and it is anticipated that the planting of the whole of the Island will be completed in the year 1914.

OPIUM.

The number of persons licensed to smoke opium during 1911 was 42, as compared with 50 in 1910. The licensed smokers are all either over 50 years of age or suffer from some chronic disease. Although there are many more than 50 people in the Territory who smoke opium, as is shown by the fact that there were 95 convictions during the year for breaches of the Opium Ordinance, there is no doubt that the habit of smoking opium is becoming less prevalent and that there are few young men who indulge in it. Whether this result is due to restrictive legislation or to the great rise in the cost of opium is difficult to say.

Thirty-eight opium smokers were treated in gaol. All were men and all were cured of the habit except one man who developed chronic diarrhœa, with swelling of his feet, and who was discharged on the recommendation of the medical officer.

The treatment of opium smokers in gaol is very simple. The drug is at once cut off: a purgative is administered and the patient is either relieved entirely from work for a few days or given work of a very light nature. The majority of the patients complain very little, but they usually look, and doubtless feel, dejected and miserable for four or five days. A few complain of diarrhœa, which is readily controlled by simple medicines. After the lapse of about a week the craving for opium ceases and the patient commences to gain weight. All patients on their discharge from gaol invariably look stronger, fatter, and more physically fit than when they were admitted to gaol.

The excessive use of alcohol, to which reference was made in the Report for 1910, is on the increase. Cases of drunkenness, which till recent years were very rare among the Chinese of this Territory, are now becoming more numerous, and the Chinese themselves say that this is due to the suppression of opium smoking.

HOSPITALS.

A new hospital was established at Wênch'uant'ang, where the District Officer resides, in buildings which belong to the neighbouring villages, and opened on the 8th of May. It was intended to place in charge of it the Chinese medical assistant, who had been under the Medical Officer on the Island, as it was thought that his services could be much more usefully employed among the Chinese in the Territory. He, however, resigned, but the Government was fortunate in securing, through Dr. Neal of the American Presbyterian Mission Hospital at Tsinanfu, the capital of the Province of Shantung, the services of Mr. Ma, who has had 20 years' experience of medical work in that hospital under Dr. Neal. In order to encourage the Chinese to make use of this hospital and the services of the medical assistant in charge of it, no charge of any kind was made for medical attendance, treatment, or drugs. The result has been most satisfactory, for during a period of less than eight months 4,844 patients applied for medical aid, the number of attendances being 9,054. This remarkable success is in a large measure due to the personality of Mr. Ma, who by his courtesy and kindly manner has so gained the confidence and esteem of the Chinese that they readily seek his aid and advice.

Mr. Ma has been especially successful in dealing with cases of attempted suicide, having saved no fewer than 32 persons since he first entered upon his duties.

As the Chinese have shown themselves only too ready to make use of the new hospital and Mr. Ma is now so well and so favourably known to them, it has been decided in future to make a charge for drugs supplied to patients who can afford to pay for them, an arrangement which is approved by the Chinese, for the benefit of whom the hospital has been established.

The in-patients treated during the year in the hospital on the Island numbered 11, as compared with 16 in 1910, whilst the out-patients were 1,715, as compared with 2,277 during the previous year.

At the Port Edward Hospital there were 90 in-patients, as compared with 97 in 1910, and 3,909 out-patients, as compared with 3,063 in 1910.

The number of operations was 59. Amongst them were three successful cases of abdominal section, the satisfactory result of which caused great surprise among the Chinese interested, and moved some of them to show their appreciation and gratitude by presenting to Dr. Muat, Medical Officer, to be hung in the Port Edward Hospital, a tablet on which are inscribed Chinese characters meaning that through his skill those who were about to die have been restored to life.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the Territory was very satisfactory during the year. There was no epidemic of any kind. Six cases of whooping-cough occurred among Europeans. All the cases were mild and all made good recoveries. There seems to be no doubt that the disease was imported. There was one case of diphtheria and one of scarlet fever, both of which recovered. There were 12 cases of dysentery and 24 cases of mumps. There was only one case of plague, imported from Chefoo, to which reference was made in the report for last year. There has been no recurrence of this disease in this neighbourhood, as was expected, during the present year. The number of vaccinations performed on the mainland was 3,841, as compared with 3,696 in 1910, and on the Island 211, as compared with 77 in the previous year.

SANITATION.

The sanitary condition of Port Edward and the Island was satisfactory. Several new drains were constructed and old ones repaired. The generally clean condition of Port Edward and the Island continues to be the subject of favourable comment.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The Meteorological Returns for the year are given in the Appendix.

The highest monthly barometrical average was that of September, 30·834, and the lowest that of May, 29·016. The average monthly range was ·909.

The highest temperature was 89° in May and the lowest 2° in January.

Rain and snow fell on 84 days, the annual rainfall being 39·60 inches. July was the wettest month, with a rainfall of 10·46 inches.

POSTAL.

The number of mails received during the year from Shanghai, Chefoo, and Tientsin was 508, composed of 746 bags, comprising, in addition to ordinary correspondence, 1,847 registered articles and parcels.

The number of mails despatched for Shanghai, Chefoo, and Tientsin was 589, composed of 666 bags, which, in addition to ordinary correspondence, comprised 2,231 registered articles.

The number of letters received by the Siberian route was 11,246, and postcards 401, exclusive of 55 closed mails received for the Fleet.

The number of mails despatched in closed bags to the General Post Office, London, by way of Siberia was 261, composed of 262 bags containing 31,633 letters, 4,236 post cards, and 1,084 registered articles.

The quickest time in which a mail reached Weihaiwei from London by way of Siberia was 15 days.

The total receipts for the sale of postage stamps and postal orders were as follows:—

	$ cts.
Stamps	6,541.88
Imperial Postal Notes	15,804.73
Local Postal Notes	4,226.15
Total	26,572.76

or a decrease as compared with the year 1910 of $3,091.04. This decrease was chiefly due to the stay of the Fleet during the summer being shorter than during the previous year.

As Port Edward is now the recognised anchorage for steamers, the landing, shipping, and closing of mails now take place there, where the main Post Office has been established, instead of, as formerly, on the Island of Liu Kung.

GAOL.

The number of prisoners sentenced to imprisonment was 213 males and 13 females, making a total of 226, as compared with 126 in 1910.

The number of prisoners, though not large when compared with the total population of the Territory, exceeds that of any previous year, but this was chiefly due to abnormal causes connected with the outbreak of the revolution in China in October.

The health of the prisoners was very good. There were no deaths from sickness and no cases of serious illness. One female prisoner succeeded in committing suicide, but the prison authorities were exonerated by the Magistrate, acting as coroner, from all blame in the matter. Two prisoners made their escape owing to the carelessness of a warder, but both were recaptured within six hours. Their recapture was largely due to the willing assistance rendered by the detachment of marines, who actively assisted the police in the search. The negligent warder was dismissed from the service.

The prisoners were employed on labour of a useful kind, such as road-mending and tree-planting.

REVOLUTION IN CHINA.

The revolution in China broke out in October, and the City of Weihaiwei declared itself in favour of the Republican party on the 14th of November, following the lead of the Treaty port of Chefoo, under the jurisdiction of the revolutionary government of which it placed itself. In the meantime the districts of Wên-têng, under the jurisdiction of which the City of Weihaiwei had hitherto been, and of Jungch'êng, both of which adjoin this Territory, remained Imperial, though they ultimately joined the republican party. The difference of opinion between the two parties in those districts led to an outbreak of the people and fighting took place in the immediate neighbourhood of the frontier of this Territory. This necessitated steps being taken to guard its boundary. Marines belonging to the Island guard, under Lieutenant Laing, were first employed for this purpose and discharged their duties in a most satisfactory manner. On their withdrawal a force of 100 men of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, under Captain Crawford, was sent from Tientsin by Brigadier-General Cooper, and is still stationed here. The unrest in the Wêntêng and Jungch'êng district naturally reacted on this Territory. Many refugees sought its protection and for a time there was a marked increase of crime, which was, however, checked by the presence of the military. As the outbreak in the districts adjoining this Territory continued after the abdication of the Emperor of China and the formal establishment of a republic, and did not appear to be in any sense political, an attempt was made in the interests of humanity to effect a peaceful settlement between the contending parties by allowing representatives of each to meet on neutral ground in Weihaiwei. A conference was held at Port Edward between representatives of the Republican Government at Chefoo and of the people of Wêntêng and Jungch'êng. A satisfactory settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed that hostilities should cease.

But the representatives of the people were unable to persuade the villagers to abandon hostilities and return to their usual avocations.

Fighting was continued, and though the loss of life has not been large the inhabitants of the disturbed districts have suffered much in many ways. Order is now gradually being restored. Magistrates have been installed in the districts and it is hoped that before long the two districts concerned will resume their usually peaceful condition.

The British Fleet, under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Alfred Winsloe, was at Weihaiwei during the summer, where it carried out its annual gunnery exercises with that success for which the China Squadron has become so justly famous.

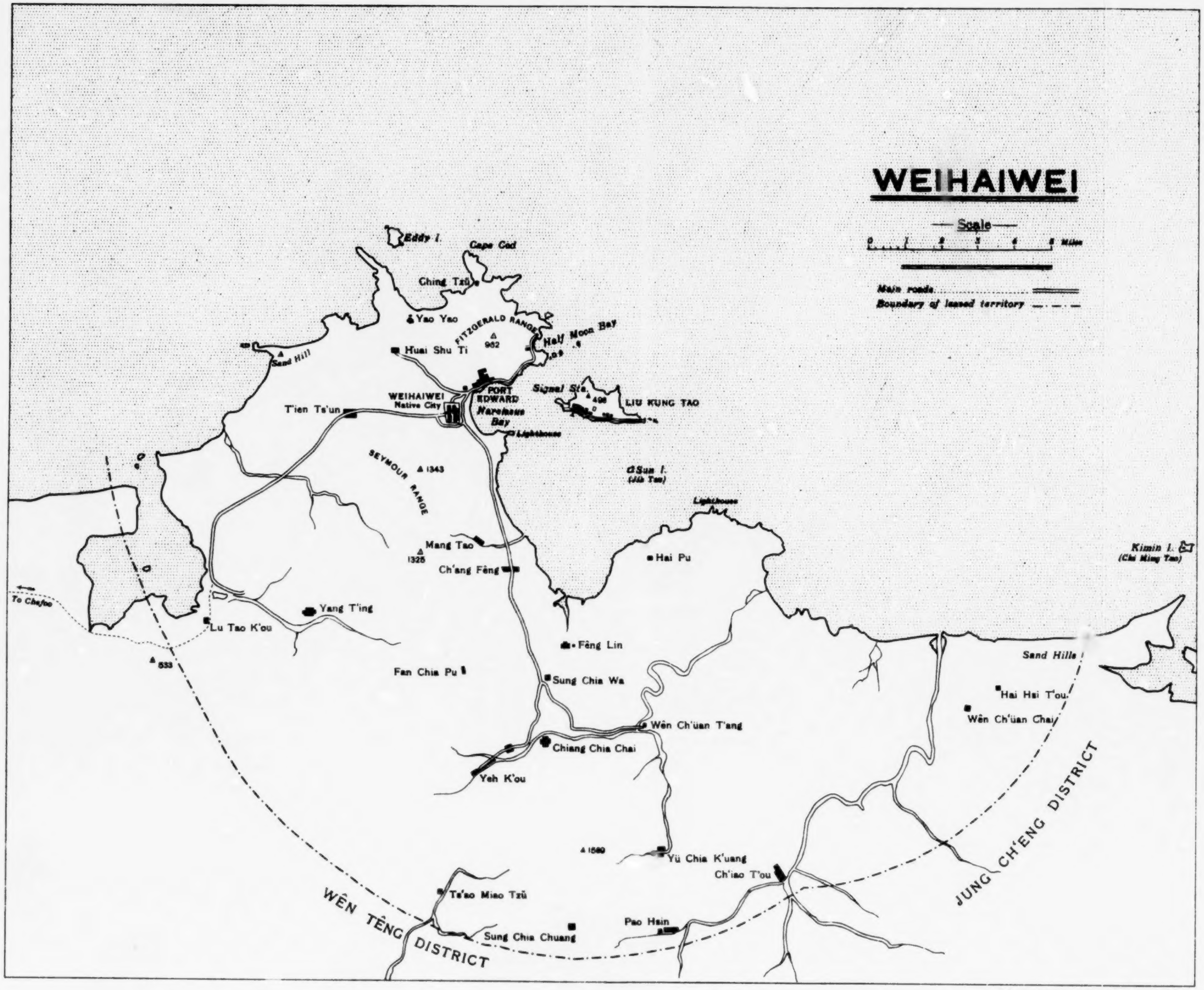
In July Weihaiwei was honoured by visits from Rear-Admiral Murdock, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Asiatic Fleet, in his flagship the "Saratoga," accompanied by the cruisers "New Orleans" and "Albany," and from Captain Cicoli, in the Austrian cruiser "Franz Joseph I.," and in September by a visit from Vice-Admiral Gunther von Krosigk, Commander-in-Chief of the German Fleet in China, in his flagship "Scharnhorst," accompanied by a torpedo boat.

Coronation.

The Coronation of Their Majesties the King and Queen was celebrated on the 22nd of June with great enthusiasm. Addresses to His Majesty the King were presented by the British, Chinese, and Japanese communities of Weihaiwei, and a scroll by the Chinese residents of the City of Weihaiwei, which is under the jurisdiction of China. His Majesty was graciously pleased to express his thanks for the congratulations contained in those addresses and his appreciation of the artistic merit displayed in their preparation. His Majesty greatly admired the ornamentation and workmanship of the Address presented by the Chinese community of Weihaiwei.

J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Commissioner.

Government House,
Weihaiwei,
18th May, 1912.



Ordnance Survey Office Southampton, 1912.

APPENDIX.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN FOR 1911.

Month.	Barometer.				Temperature.						Rain or Snow.	
	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Mean for the Month.	Range.	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Range in the Month.	Mean of all Highest.	Mean of all Lowest.	Mean daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount collected
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.		inches.
January	30·524	29·500	30·249	1·024	45	2	43	36	17	19	4 (2 snow)	·91
February	30·706	29·818	30·396	·888	56	15	41	38	20	18	3 (2 snow)	·21
March	30·424	29·030	30·134	1·394	57	19	38	49	26	23	6	1·92
April	30·350	29·320	29·994	1·030	85	24	61	58	35	23	5	·99
May	30·270	29·016	29·965	1·254	89	39	50	72	47	25	6	1·52
June	30·094	29·456	29·834	·638	88	52	36	79	56	23	6	3·13
July	30·096	29·224	29·734	·872	86	57	29	81	61	20	13	10·46
August	30·052	29·266	29·822	·786	86	60	26	81	63	18	9	3·52
September	30·834	29·722	29·992	1·112	88	51	37	77	58	19	12	8·04
October	30·428	29·980	30·170	·448	74	38	36	66	45	21	4	·97
November	30·438	29·726	30·221	·712	65	17	48	52	34	18	10 (1 snow)	5·76
December	30·718	29·968	30·363	·750	52	13	39	38	22	16	6 (4 snow)	2·17
Mean	30·411	29·502	30·073	·909	72	32	40	60	40	20	*84	*39·60

*Totals. Comet seen N.E., 4 a.m., 25th October,1911.

Port Edward,
Weihaiwei.

W. M. MUAT, M.B.

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No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
686	Malta	1910–1911
687	Imperial Institute	1910
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689	Fiji	"
690	Somaliland	"
691	Hong Kong	"
692	Nyasaland	1910–1911
693	Seychelles	1910
694	Sierra Leone	"
695	Southern Nigeria	"
696	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1910–11
697	Swaziland	"
698	Barbados	"
699	Trinidad and Tobago	"
700	Mauritius	1910
701	Grenada	"
702	British Guiana	1910–1911
703	Jamaica	"
704	Northern Nigeria	"
705	East Africa Protectorate	"
706	British Honduras	1910
707	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
708	Uganda	1910–1911
709	Straits Settlements	1910
710	Basutoland	1910–1911
711	Leeward Islands	"
712	St. Vincent	"
713	St. Lucia	1910
714	St. Helena	1911

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Surveys 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 757.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1912.

(For Report for 1911, *see* No. 715.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1913.

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No. 757.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1911, *see* No. 715.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
27th May, 1913.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the Territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1912.

I have, &c.,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

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FINANCIAL.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $79,582, as compared with $74,673 during the previous year. The expenditure during the year amounted to $146,146, as compared with $153,690, the expenditure of the previous year.

The following are the heads of revenue and expenditure for last year, as compared with those of the previous year:—

Revenue.

Head.	1911-12. $	1912-13. $
Licences and Internal Revenue ...	50,855	50,636
Fees of Court	4,630	7,276
Rents of Government Property, Land and Houses	17,103	19,176
Interest and Miscellaneous ...	2,085	2,494
Total	74,673	79,582

Expenditure.

Head.	1911-12. $	1912-13. $
Commissioner's Establishment ...	24,695	23,901
Secretary to Government	12,921	12,102
District Officer	8,484	8,051
Police and Gaol	25,907	27,295
Medical and Sanitary	17,422	16,319
Public Works Department ...	2,394	2,670
Public Works	23,417	22,956
Forestry Department	2,040	1,604
Miscellaneous Services	36,410	31,248
Total	153,690	146,146

The total revenue and expenditure for the last five years are as follows:—

Years.	Revenue. $	Expenditure. $
1908-9	83,277	168,740
1909-10	83,499	145,687
1910-11	75,353	145,028
1911-12	74,673	153,690
1912-13	79,582	146,146

The deficit each year has been met by a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds, which has been as follows during the past five years:—

Years.	Amount. £
1908-9	10,000
1909-10	4,400
1910-11	5,000
1911-12	6,000
1912-13	6,000

PUBLIC WORKS.

No new public work of any importance has been carried out during the year. The only extension to the Government roads during 1912 was the continuation of the Chefoo Road from the village of Ta Hsi Chuang to Chiang Tou—a distance of nearly a mile. Six spans of bridges, each of 10 feet, were erected and this road is now within a mile of the market town of Yang T'ing. The coast road from Ch'ang Fêng to Yeh K'ou, a distance of 7 miles, was re-metalled during the spring. The island and village roads were maintained in a fair condition and Mr. Liang Tê-yang still continues to supervise their maintenance and construction. The hospital at Port Edward was reconstructed at a cost of $4,200. An operating theatre has been built and a room for European cases has been provided.

POLICE FORCE.

Owing to the disturbed condition of the neighbourhood of this Territory at the beginning of the year, nine special constables were enrolled, but were discharged on the arrival from Tientsin of the detachment of Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, which was stationed at various posts on the frontier of the Territory.

The strength of the force throughout the year was as follows:—

3 European inspectors,
3 sergeants,
53 constables.

The police had very responsible work to perform, more particularly during the early part of the year when it had to discharge outpost duties, which were carried out in a manner which reflected great credit on the force.

The military frontier posts were rendered necessary by the disturbed state of the neighbouring districts in Chinese territory, and the police were employed as guides to the military and on intelligence work. These duties so reduced the strength of the force at Port Edward as to render the annual field firing impossible.

The usual musketry and Maxim training was, however, carried out, the men on outpost duty being relieved for these exercises The percentage of marksmen and first-class shots was 77. Seven constables were trained in the use of the machine gun.

Six men were dismissed during the year for misconduct. Of these, three, who had arrested a gang of robbers, maltreated them in order to obtain admission of guilt before bringing them before the magistrate. The man arrested confessed under pressure, but as, apart from the confessions illegally extracted from them, there was not sufficient evidence to convict them, they were discharged. In addition to punishing the three constables concerned, the whole police force was warned that a repetition of such a serious offence as the three constables had committed would be most severely dealt with. Such cases are fortunately very rare, and it is hoped that the action taken in the present instance will prevent a recurrence of a similar kind.

The health of the force was exceptionally good, as there was not a single admission to hospital throughout the year.

FIRE BRIGADE.

The volunteer fire brigade, which consists of assistants and workmen detailed from each shop who co-operate with the police stationed at Port Edward, has worked satisfactorily. There were three small fires during the year, with which the Fire Brigade dealt satisfactorily.

TRADE.

The trade of the Territory does not show much increase during the year, and, as has been frequently pointed out, it is not likely to develop to any great extent so long as the tenure of Weihaiwei remains uncertain. At the same time the native population shows signs of increasing prosperity. The additional godown accommodation, to which reference was made in the Report for 1911, has been still further increased during the past year, and the price of land in the neighbourhood of Port Edward has risen considerably. The chief exports were ground-nut seeds and oil:—

	1911. Piculs.	1912. Piculs.
Ground-nuts	9,190	3,780
Ground-nut Seeds	142,961	123,223
Ground-nut Oil	—	13,067 tins.

A picul = 133⅓ lbs.

As one tin of oil can be produced from one picul of ground-nut seeds the falling-off was not great. There was a considerable import of flour which seems likely to increase in quantity.

SHIPPING.

The total number of steamers which called here during the year was 632, with a total net tonnage of 524,927, as compared with 615 steamers of total net tonnage of 519,399 in 1911. These figures include 180 coasting steamers and launches under 300 tons.

EDUCATION.

One effect of the revolution in China has been to give a considerable fillip to education in the Territory. Many more village schools have been established and there are more students at the older schools. There is a deficiency of suitable teachers, and, to remedy this, normal schools have been established in the neighbouring districts, one of which, in the city of Wêntêng, numbers sixty pupils, many of whom are from the Territory.

One of the pupils at this school, a village schoolmaster who was also headman of his village in British Territory, came some months ago to resign his post as headman as he would be absent from his village. He is over 40 years of age and a literary graduate of the old school, but he does not feel himself too old to learn for the good of his village. He took the opportunity to express his gratitude to the magistrate for having cured him of the opium habit some years ago.

The conduct of this man is reminiscent of the early reform movement in Japan, and it is to be hoped that China will produce many such men willing to learn new methods, not for their own advancement, but to educate and encourage the rising generation of their own villages.

The Government Free School at Port Edward had during the year an average attendance of 70, as compared with 60 in 1911. The aim of the Government in the administration of this school is to encourage the acquisition of what is now called in China "the new learning," but at the same time to insist on a satisfactory knowledge of the Chinese classics, which afford such an excellent moral training for the young and which there is now a tendency to neglect. The same object is also kept in view in the scholarship examinations, which, as was pointed out in last year's report, are financed by money voluntarily subscribed by the people in connection with theatrical entertainments. No scholarship examinations were held during the past year owing to the decrease in this fund caused by the disturbances connected with the revolution. The examinations will, however, again be held during the present year. The attendance at the Weihaiwei School for Europeans kept by Mr. Beer was 37, as compared with 43 in 1911. The attendance at the Church of England Mission School has increased to 20, as compared with 12 during the previous year. The aim of this school is to give a good grounding in Chinese and English up to the standard of a secondary school. Parents are gradually coming to regard this school as suitable for boys who have passed through elementary schools and who are able to continue their education. The average attendance at the Protestant Mission School for Chinese girls was 32.

In the three educational institutions under the control of the Catholic Franciscan Mission the attendance was as follows:—St. Joseph's School for Chinese, 16, as compared with 7 in 1911; Convent School for non-Chinese girls, 10, the same number as last year; native pupil workers, 35, the same number as in 1911.

The school for girls established by the anti foot-binding society was attended by 21 scholars, as compared with 25 in 1911.

Anti Foot-Binding Society.

An independent anti foot-binding society called the *Yuan Tsu Hui* (Original or Natural Foot Society) has been formed locally and is meeting with considerable success. The membership consists of over two hundred heads of Chinese families, and in one village recently the feet of fifty-six girls were unbound. In another village an old woman of over sixty unbound her feet as an example to others.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Criminal.

The cases heard by the Judge of the High Court sitting in September included two murder cases. The first of these was a case of arsenic poisoning, and the second a brutal murder, in which the throat of the murdered man was cut while he was asleep.

The first of these cases presented the usual features of a murder by arsenic, and an analysis had to be obtained from Shanghai. A man of about fifty was poisoned by his wife and son-in-law who were proved to have had incestuous relations; both were found guilty and sentenced to death, but the woman, on the recommendation of the Judge, was reprieved. In the second case, a man of sixty murdered a man of fifty-five through jealousy. The detection of this case was a smart piece of work on the part of the police, and was only rendered possible by the murderer having retained property of the murdered man which was discovered by the police buried in his house.

Besides these two murder cases, three men were brought before the High Court for house-breaking and receiving, all of whom were convicted and sentenced.

There was a further case of armed robbery, the conviction of the guilty parties in which resulted in the breaking up of a band of pirates which had terrorised neighbouring waters for nearly a year.

Reference was made in last year's report to a case of daring piracy in the waters of the Territory, in which a gang of six pirates was concerned. After the occurrence of this case several more piracies occurred during the spring outside the waters of the Territory, and reports were circulated that the pirates had given notice that they intended to kill all Weihaiwei men who fell into their hands, in order to avenge the death of those concerned in the piracy within the waters of Weihaiwei. To show that their threats were not mere idle words, they murdered four natives of Weihaiwei belonging to two junks, and it was impossible to discover any clue to the identity of the culprits. At the end of July the pirates turned their attention from the sea to the land, and within twenty-four hours a band of seven of them, armed with knives and revolvers, committed a series of robberies in the Territory. One of these was fortunately recognised and was finally captured in Port Edward. Documents were found in his possession and at his house giving the names of all his confederates, and also an address at Chefoo. An inspector of police was sent to Chefoo, and with the assistance of the police there the whole gang was captured with the exception of two men who had previously made their way to Manchuria. All the piracies committed by the gang having taken place in Chinese waters, the culprits were finally handed over to take their trial in the Chinese Courts, and in the course of this trial the murders of the four Weihaiwei junkmen were proved to have been committed by this gang, two of the murdered men having actually been closely connected by marriage with the leader of the gang. This gang of pirates was thus definitely broken up, and no more piracies have been reported since the members of it met the fate they so richly deserved.

In addition to the cases mentioned above, tried by the High Court, there was a total of 583 convictions in cases tried by the magistrates, which shows a considerable decrease as compared with 786 convictions in 1911.

Though the actual number of convictions has decreased, there has been a marked increase in armed robberies and serious crimes of a similar nature. This lawlessness is undoubtedly due to the disorder caused directly or indirectly by the revolution. The most noticeable decrease is in the number of convictions for gambling, 176, which shows a great reduction as compared with the number in 1911, which was 308. One of the chief reasons for this decrease was that, owing to the bad harvest of 1911 and to the revolution, money was too tight for cash to be available for gambling. Now that the money market has recovered, gambling is again on the increase.

The number of suicides reported still grows year by year, and the proportion of female to male suicides is, as in former years, two to one.

Civil.

There were three re-hearings of civil cases by the Judge of the High Court. Of these, two were pasturage disputes which are, as a class, perhaps the most troublesome of all the various civil cases constantly arising in Weihaiwei. In each case the Judge visited the ground in dispute and fixed the boundaries, and the decisions given coincided with the orders previously made by the Magistrate. To show the amount of trouble involved in dealing with cases of this nature, it may be mentioned that the visit of the Judge was prolonged to nearly a month, which constitutes the longest session of the High Court in the history of the Territory.

Besides the two cases mentioned, there were 373 civil cases heard by the Magistrates exercising the jurisdiction of the High Court, 301 of which were heard by the District Officer and 73 by the Magistrate at Port Edward. These figures show a considerable decrease as compared with the 439 civil cases heard in 1911, which may be attributed to the unrest and anxiety caused by the revolution in China.

LEGISLATION.

Two Ordinances were passed during the year:—No. 1, The Official Secrets Ordinance; No. 2, The Quarry Ordinance. The object of the second of these is to regulate the charging of fees for quarrying. The people of Weihaiwei, for an indefinite period in the past, have been in the habit of taking stone from the hillside in the neighbourhood of their villages for the purpose of building their own houses. The Ordinance is not intended to interfere with this practice but to authorise the charging of fees for quarrying carried on by building contractors and professional stone masons.

LIGHTHOUSES.

The working of the lighthouses under the superintendence of Engineer Commander Harris has been satisfactory. Some spare parts for the clockwork mechanism were made and fitted under the supervision of that officer.

AGRICULTURE.

The agricultural results during the year were, on the whole, fair, rain having come in May just in time to save a drought. Later in the year there was a further shortage of rain, owing to which the bean crop was poor, but the ground-nut crop turned out very well.

The rainfall during the year was the lowest on record. There were only 16·59 inches of rain, as compared with an average of over 30 inches in previous years.

The value of agricultural land has not yet recovered from the effects of the poor harvest of 1911, followed as it was by the revolution and consequent shortage of money, but it is gradually recovering. Early in 1912 land was almost unsaleable, the downward tendency being aggravated by the threatened drought. Prices now average about £17 an acre, which is less than half the price obtained four or five years ago, when a series of good harvests had sent up the price of land, for when harvests are good no one is willing to sell, but when bad poorer people have to sell to live. The prices given do not apply to the immediate vicinity of Port Edward, where the land has risen considerably in value and has recently sold for as much as £240 an acre.

AFFORESTATION.

Two hundred and fifty thousand fir trees were planted on the Island, which is now very much changed in appearance from ten years ago, when a visitor remarked that the only trees on the Island were flag posts! Several hundred acacias were also planted and the avenues of trees on the mainland extended.

OPIUM.

Opium smoking in the Territory, which has never been a prevalent habit among its inhabitants, is rapidly decreasing. The number of licensed opium smokers was 36, as compared with 42 in the previous year, and the number of convictions for offences under the Ordinance was 47, as compared with 95 in 1911.

Of the persons convicted, six preferred to go to gaol rather than pay the fine imposed. They were discharged from gaol cured of the opium habit, as were also the four or five other opium smokers who were sentenced to imprisonment for other offences. This decrease in the figures connected with opium smoking in the Territory is remarkable when compared with the marked increase which took place outside the Territory during the disturbances incident to the revolution.

In the report for last year reference was made to the increase of drunkenness among the Chinese in connection with the decrease of opium smoking. There has been no marked increase of the excessive use of alcohol during the past year, and very few cases of drunkenness have come before the Magistrates. Drunkenness among the inhabitants of this Territory has not become a prevalent or formidable social evil. But, as opium has been prohibited, the Chinese find it difficult to dispense with all forms of stimulants, so liquor in the form of Chinese spirits tends to take its place and drunkenness is now not so rare a vice as it used to be. The Chinese in Weihaiwei still are, as a general rule, undoubtedly a sober race, so any exception to that rule naturally attracts greater attention than in other places where drunkenness is more prevalent.

HOSPITALS.

Increasing confidence of the Chinese in European methods was shown by a very marked rise in the number of patients treated in the hospital at Port Edward, viz., 4,923 out-patients and 110 in-patients, making a total of 5,033, as compared with 3,909 in 1911.

One hundred operations were performed, and of these perhaps the most interesting were ten cases of gunshot wounds received during the fighting in Chinese territory near the frontier of Weihaiwei.

There were seven midwifery cases, five of which were difficult instrumental cases. The Chinese are still very conservative in these cases and very seldom seek assistance, and then only when the patient is *in extremis*. They, as a rule, still prefer the primitive methods of the local beldames, which result in a very high rate of mortality among both women and children.

The total number of patients treated in the Island Hospital was 1,853. Of these, 1,842 were out-patients and 11 in-patients. Large numbers of out-patients were treated by Mr. Ma, Medical

Assistant at Wênch'üant'ang, who continues to show great zeal and interest in his work. There were 4,009 new cases, with 7,328 attendances, as compared with 4,849 cases in eight months last year. The slight reduction in the number of patients prescribed for is accounted for by the inauguration of a new system of charging fees to cover the cost of drugs supplied. Under the old system many persons who could well afford to pay for the drugs used by them failed to do so, while now all patients have to pay cash unless they can bring a letter from their village headman, or other responsible person, certifying their inability to pay even the small sums demanded. It may be added that medical treatment is free to all comers, the only payment demanded being the cost price of the drugs supplied in the case of those who can afford to pay for them.

The Franciscan Sisters started a free dispensary at the Convent in 1908. In addition to treating patients who come to the dispensary, they also attend cases of sickness in the villages. Their charitable work is much appreciated by the Chinese, as may be seen from the following return, furnished by the Reverend Mother Superior, showing the number of patients treated in the dispensary since 1908.

Year.	No. of patients.
1908	1,436
1909	4,140
1910	3,736
1911	4,554
1912	7,274

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the Territory was very good and, as in 1911, there was no epidemic. Among Europeans there was one fatal case of typhus, which was contracted in Shanghai. A marine on the Island died of diphtheria. The source of infection could not be traced as there were no cases known to exist either on the Island or at Port Edward. The number of vaccinations performed on the mainland and Island were 3,593 and 30 respectively as compared with 3,841 and 211 in the previous year. Ninety per cent. of the vaccinations were successful.

SANITATION.

The sanitary condition of Port Edward and the Island was satisfactory. With a view to decrease the number of flies on the Island a committee was appointed to survey the rubbish shute. An iron shute was recommended and approved and will be constructed this year.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The returns for the year are given in the Appendix.

The highest monthly barometrical average was for November—30·740 inches, and the lowest April—29·084 inches. The average monthly range was ·709. The highest temperature was 97°, in July and August, and the lowest 4°, in December.

Rain or snow fell on 52 days, the annual rainfall being 16·59 inches, the lowest on record. The wettest month was August, with 5·04 inches.

POSTAL.

The number of mails despatched to Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin and Hong Kong was 807, composed of 876 bags including 3,241 registered articles and parcels. The number of mails received from the above-mentioned places was 899, made up of 1,198 bags including 3,141 registered articles and parcels. The number of mails despatched in closed bags to General Post Office, London, viâ Siberia, was 274, composed of 275 bags containing 78,676 letters, 5,382 postcards and 1,278 registered articles.

The quickest time in which a mail reached here from London was 14 days. The total receipts for the sale of postage stamps and postal orders during the year were as follows:—

	$ cts.
Stamps	8,260.94
Imperial Postal Notes... ...	24,243.50
Local Postal Notes	4,374.39
	$36,878.83

This shows an increase of $10,306.07 as compared with last year, which is due to the longer stay of the Fleet.

GAOL.

The number of persons sentenced to imprisonment was 186, which is 40 less than in 1911, but the daily average, 39, is in excess of last year, which indicates that the sentences passed have been longer owing to the increase of serious crime. The increase is also partly to be accounted for by the fact that prisoners sentenced to long terms of imprisonment are not now, as formerly, sent to Hong Kong to undergo their sentences.

The new gaol was occupied in January and is a great improvement in every way on the former buildings, and affords much better opportunities for supervision than were formerly possible. One prisoner under sentence of death attempted to commit suicide but was prevented from doing himself any harm. The work performed by the prisoners has, as usual, been chiefly the making and repairing of roads and tree planting. It has been remarked that prisoners serving long sentences are nearly always the best workers. The health of the prisoners has been very good, no cases of serious illness having occurred. There were one birth in gaol and two executions.

REVOLUTION IN CHINA.

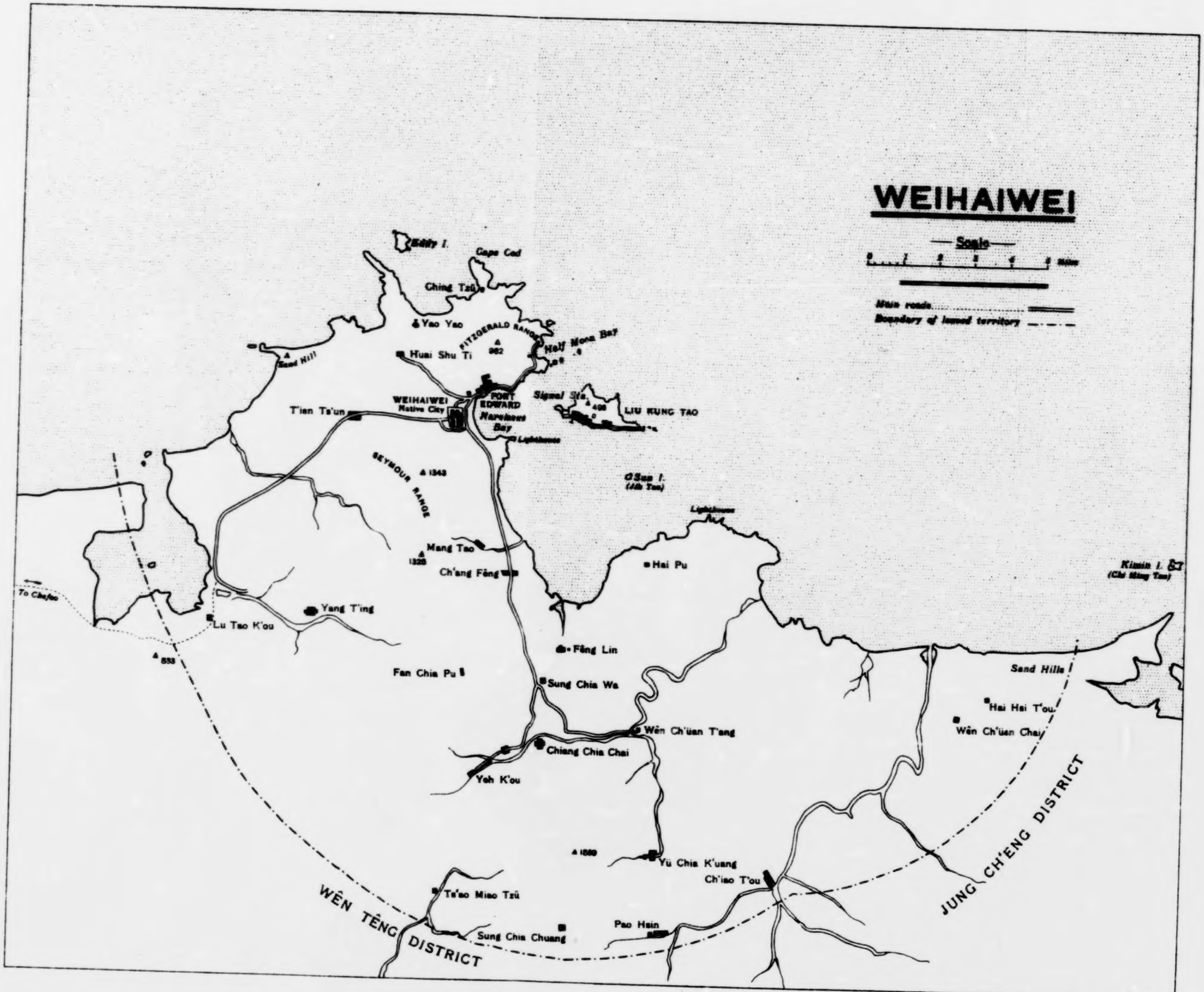
In the report for last year reference was made to the Revolution in China so far as it affected the districts in the neighbourhood of this Territory. Sporadic fighting continued till the end of June, and though order has gradually been restored in those districts, there is still a feeling of unrest among their inhabitants as well as among the people of this Territory, and serious crime has been more prevalent than formerly. It is estimated that 700 men were killed in the disturbances in Chinese territory, 120 of whom were revolutionaries killed by the people, who were exasperated by forced subscriptions and interference with their customs. The disturbed conditions of the districts adjoining this Territory necessitate the presence of a military detachment, first supplied by the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who were relieved in September by a detachment of the Prince Albert's Somerset Light Infantry. The latter returned to Tientsin at the end of March last. Both military detachments discharged their duties in a most efficient manner and the thanks of this Government for their valuable assistance were conveyed to them before they left Weiheiwei. The departure of the military has necessitated an increase of 40 in the local Police Force in order that the marked increase in serious crime may be held in check.

BRITISH FLEET AND FOREIGN SHIPS OF WAR.

The British Fleet under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Alfred Winsloe arrived about the beginning of June and left about the end of September after having carried out its usual gunnery exercises. H.M.S. "Monmouth" was here during the winter months and its presence was much appreciated, as no man-of-war has been stationed here during that season for many years past. In July Weihaiwei was honoured by visits from Admiral de Kerillis, Commander-in-Chief of the French Fleet in Eastern waters, in his flagship "Dupleix"; from Captain Nanta in the Austrian cruiser "Kaizer Franz Josef I."; and from Captain de Lussanet de la Sabloniere in the Dutch cruiser "Holland"; in August by a visit from Lieutenant Claasfen in the German destroyer "Taku," and in October by a visit from Captain Yoshyima and Captain Sato of the Japanese cruisers "Tsugaru" and "Suzuya."

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

Government House,
Weihaiwei,
27th May, 1913.



Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton, 1913.

APPENDIX.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN FOR 1912.

1912.	Barometer.				Temperature.						Rain or Snow.	
	Highest in Month.	Lowest in Month.	Mean of Month.	Range.	Highest in Month.	Lowest in Month.	Range in Month.	Mean of Highest.	Mean of Lowest.	Mean daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount collected.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.		
January	30·642	30·050	30·365	·592	41	11	30	35	17	18	0	·0
February	30·518	29·850	30·584	·668	52	14	38	41	22	19	3	1·52
March	30·388	29·562	30·146	·826	62	19	43	48	27	21	4	·29 (1 snow)
April	30·394	29·084	29·898	1·310	85	25	60	62	39	23	1	·55
May	30·172	29·344	29·857	·828	83	40	43	71	46	25	4	1·54
June	29·982	29·510	29·739	·472	89	49	40	80	55	25	5	·75
July	29·964	29·344	29·982	·620	97	67	30	85	62	23	5	4·44
August	30·062	29·670	29·870	·392	97	57	40	84	65	19	11	5·04
September	30·350	29·674	30·085	·676	83	46	37	74	54	20	7	·90
October	30·540	29·950	30·194	·590	82	30	52	66	42	24	6	·82
November	30·740	29·838	30·291	·902	70	12	58	48	27	21	1	·01 (snow)
December	30·708	30·074	30·402	·634	51	4	47	37	18	19	5	·73 (snow)
Mean	30·371	29·662	30·118	·709	74	31	43	61	39	21	*52	*16·59

* Totals.

Port Edward,
Weihaiwei.

H. J. HICKIN,
Medical Officer.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
725	Gold Coast	1911
726	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
727	Fiji	"
728	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1911–1912
729	Basutoland	"
730	Colonial Survey Committee	"
731	Malta	"
732	Nyasaland	"
733	British Honduras	1911
734	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1910
735	Southern Nigeria	1911
736	Somaliland	1911–1912
737	Imperial Institute	1911
738	Northern Nigeria	"
739	Jamaica	1911–1912
740	Swaziland	"
741	Bahamas	"
742	Grenada	1911
743	Uganda	1911–1912
744	Mauritius	1911
745	Trinidad and Tobago	1911–1912
746	British Guiana	"
747	St. Vincent	"
748	Barbados	"
749	Leeward Islands	"
750	Straits Settlements	1911
751	East Africa Protectorate	1911–1912
752	St. Lucia	"
753	Gilbert and Ellice Islands Protectorate	1911
754	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1911–1912
755	Gibraltar	1912
756	St. Helena	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 804.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1913.

(For Report for 1912, see No. 757.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1914.

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APR 15 1916

No. 804.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1912, see No. 757).

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
8th July, 1914.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the Territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1913.

I have, &c.,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

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GENERAL.

The Territory of Weihaiwei had a prosperous year in 1913. The harvests were good and commerce showed a steady and healthy increase. The people were law abiding and the part of the province of Shantung near this Territory was spared the horrors of the fighting consequent on the abortive second Revolution in China.

STAFF.

Mr. Walter, Secretary to Government, returned from home leave in May. It having been decided to abolish the post of Passed Cadet, Mr. Carpmael, the holder of that post, was transferred to Hongkong and left on Mr. Walter's return. The District Officer, Mr. Johnston, went on leave in May and was relieved by Mr. G. S. Moss, of H.B.M. Consular Service. In August Mr. H. B. Ching, Financial Assistant, went on leave, his duties being taken over by Mr. P. D. Crawley, who had joined the Government Service as Inspector of Police in April. Mr. Ching was transferred to Fiji in November. Mr. Walter was transferred to the post of Colonial Secretary, British Honduras, and left the Territory in November to take up the duties of his new appointment. The vacancy thus caused was filled by Mr. E. G. Jamieson, of H.B.M. Consular Service.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $93,780, as compared with $79,582 during the previous year. The expenditure during the year amounted to $166,960, as compared with $146,146, the expenditure of the previous year, the increase being chiefly due to the augmentation of the Police Force.

The following are the Heads of Revenue and Expenditure for last year, as compared with those of the previous year :—

Revenue.

Head.	1912–13.	1913–14
Licences and Internal Revenue ..	$50,636	$61,000
Fees of Court	7,276	10,677
Rents of Government Property, Land and Houses	19,176	17,827
Interest and Miscellaneous	2,494	4,276
Total ..	$79,582	$93,780

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	1912–13.	1913–14.
Commissioner's Establishment	$23,901	$24,161
Secretary to Government	12,102	11,198
District Officer	8,051	7,682
Police and Gaol	27,295	40,282
Medical and Sanitary	16,319	16,989
Public Works Department	2,670	2,503
Public Works	22,956	32,709
Forestry Department	1,604	1,633
Miscellaneous Services	31,248	29,803
Total	$146,146	$166,960

The total revenue and expenditure for the last five years are as follows:—

Years.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	$	$
1909–10	83,499	145,687
1910–11	75,353	145,028
1911–12	74,673	153,690
1912–13	79,582	146,146
1913–14	93,780	166,960

The deficit each year has been met by a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds, which has been as follows during the past five years:—

Years.	Amount.
	£
1909–10	4,400
1910–11	5,000
1911–12	6,000
1912–13	6,000
1913–14	8,300

PUBLIC WORKS,

During the year the Police Station and quarters for the Island Inspector were re-constructed at a cost of $6,000. An office and quarters were also provided for the Territory Inspector at Liulintzŭ, the cost of which amounted to $4,000. No other works of any magnitude were undertaken with the exception of the construction of a steel cylindrical rubbish chute on the island of Liukung.

The roads on the Island were, as usual, maintained in a good condition, as were also the roads on the mainland. In addition, the Chefoo Road was extended from Chiangt'ou to Yangt'ing, a distance of about a mile.

The village roads in the south-east of the Territory have been kept in fair repair and considerably extended. The making and maintenance of these roads are subsidised by Government, but more than half of the cost is met by the voluntary contributions of the villagers either in the shape of cash or labour. One of the native gentry, Mr. Liang Têjang—to whom reference has been made in previous reports—

was again conspicuous in devoting a great deal of time and labour to supervising the laying out of these roads and to obtaining subscriptions. Anyone who knows the difficulty of the task of persuading the local peasantry to tax themselves for any public object will appreciate the success of his tenacity and enthusiasm.

POLICE.

Owing to the withdrawal of the detachment of the Prince Albert's Somerset Light Infantry at the end of March, the Police Force was increased on the 1st of April by the addition of 40 constables. The strength of the force throughout the year was as follows :—

3 European Inspectors.
3 Sergeants.
4 Lance-Sergeants.
88 Constables.

The force under the inspectors has proved itself a smart and efficient body of men. Their conduct and health have been very good. No fewer than 26 out of a total of 95 men qualified as marksmen on the range, and this number included 6 out of the 7 sergeants. The percentage of hits registered in field-firing was disappointing, and was probably due to the unsteadiness of the newly joined constables.

A system of patrols by the Police, who are stationed at six different posts in the Territory, has been organized, and the increase in the Police Force which has rendered possible this improved organization has been accompanied by a decrease in serious crime.

Some smart detective work was accomplished during the year, and in two cases married women who had been abducted from the Territory were traced to and recovered from Manchuria. Two constables distinguished themselves by their gallantry in capturing armed robbers who had crossed the border. The force generally has proved itself zealous, reliable, and remarkably well behaved. It is gratifying to note that the relations between the people and the police are excellent, and that there is keen competition for vacancies in the force.

FIRE BRIGADE.

The volunteer fire brigades on the Island and at Port Edward kept up their practices regularly. The assistants and workmen detailed from each shop turned out promptly to co-operate with the police.

There were no fires recorded during the year.

TRADE.

The number of new buildings that have been erected during the year is evidence of the prosperous condition of the Chinese merchants and of their belief in the future improvement of the trade of this Territory. In the absence of any Statistical Department or Customs Returns it is impossible to give definite figures of that trade. There was a large increase in the import of flour, mostly American, which is brought mainly from Hongkong and Shanghai. This increase is due to the people having cultivated a taste for foreign flour, which they make into cakes and dumplings. Japanese yarn was also imported in large amounts. Though beans are imported in fairly large quantities from Manchuria, there is at present only one bean-oil mill, which is reported to make large profits. There was a considerable increase in the export of ground-nuts and ground-nut oil, and there seems no reason why this trade should not continue to develop. There was a marked increase in the number of Japanese steamers which brought flour and returned with cargoes of ground-nuts, salt fish, and bean-oil to Hongkong.

The chief exports as in 1912 were :—

		1912.	1913.
Ground-nuts in shell ..	Piculs	3,780	5,947
Ground-nuts, shelled ..	„	123,223	176,036
Ground-nut oil ..	Tins	13,067	26,666

A picul equals 133⅓ lbs. A tin contains about 40 lbs. of oil.

The amount of foreign flour imported during 1913 was as follows :—

	Bags.
From Shanghai	58,940
From Hong Kong	29,072
From Chefoo	3,258*
Total bags	91,270

Each bag weighs 50 lbs. net.

As no ground-nut oil is expressed locally, it is hoped that some enterprising firm will erect a mill before long. As there is ample scope for such a venture, it seems almost certain that such a mill would prove a great success.

During the summer representatives of the British-American Tobacco Company visited the Territory with a view to ascertaining its suitability for the growth of foreign tobacco. They were so impressed by the advantages of the place from the point of view both of climate and soil that the Company is now experimenting with a view to ascertaining whether tobacco can be grown here successfully. The Company has leased land at Mêngchiachuang (about 20 miles from Port Edward) where three American employees of the Company who have had practical experience in tobacco growing reside. Experiments are being made with various classes of seeds imported from America, and the land cultivated is of varying location and quality, the object being to ascertain what combination will yield the best results. Seeds have also been distributed among Chinese farmers, who have shown themselves most ready to plant them. There seems every hope that the experiment will succeed for, though the Weihaiwei farmer is as a rule extremely conservative and cautious, he is at the same time very shrewd and by no means slow to avail himself of any change when he realizes that it will be to his material advantage.

---

* Of these 2,524 were imported by junk.

Mention may be made of a new industry which has been started in Weihaiwei in the shape of the manufacture of hair-nets. The hair used is obtained from Germany, and the nets are hand-made by women and children in the Territory, the finished article being sent back to Germany through the post. The local business is a branch of a firm which has been established in Chefoo for some years, and the fact that Weihaiwei is a free port no doubt considerably reduces the cost of production. There were nearly 500 persons engaged in this industry in various parts of the Territory. If the average output of each worker be ten nets per day, the total weekly output must have amounted to 35,000 nets. It is said that the art of making these nets can be learned in less than one day, and as the firm has agents enlisting new workers, not only in the Territory, but also in the neighbouring districts, the industry seems to be one that may increase largely. The price paid varies from 1 cent to 3½ cents per net according to size, so that the cost of labour for making one dozen nets varies from 2½d. to 8¾d.

SHIPPING.

The total number of steamers which called here during the year was 754, with a total net tonnage of 608,003, as compared with 632 steamers, with a total net tonnage of 524,927, in 1912. These figures include 219 coasting steamers and launches under 300 tons.

EDUCATION.

Owing to the lack of funds the Chinese Government schools beyond the Territory have fallen on evil days, and, backward though it is, the state of education within the Territory compares favourably with that across our border. In the country districts of the province of Shantung the general disorganization and dislocation of educational work consequent on the revolution have had a very discouraging effect on the cause of education in general, and it is much to be feared that, unless steps are taken in good time to remedy the present state of affairs, the traditional feeling of respect towards book learning of all kinds amongst the Chinese peasantry may suffer seriously. Some of the village schools are closed at present, and in some outlying villages within the Territory a lack of interest in educational matters has been very marked.

The Government Free School at Port Edward had during the year an average attendance of 70, the same figure as that for 1912. There are three masters in this school, one of whom teaches English and also instructs the boys in drill. The standard reached in English is not high. An examination for scholarships, open to all boys under 18 years of age educated in the village schools, was held in the summer. 95 candidates competed. The subjects set included papers on Chinese history, the Chinese classics, Chinese composition and geography. Five scholarships were awarded and the teachers of the successful candidates were also rewarded. The general standard of the papers of those examined was not very high, and for this reason fewer scholarships than usual were awarded. The funds for these scholarships are derived from a voluntary contribution from villages in connection with theatrical performances.

The attendance at the Weihaiwei School for European boys kept by Mr. Beer was 40, as compared with 37 last year. The Church of England Mission School again showed a considerable increase, having more than doubled its numbers, the figures being 49 as compared with 20 last year. Some of last year's students have joined higher grade schools in Chefoo and Peking, where they took good places at the entrance examinations. The pupils of this school are reported as showing an increasing interest in games, especially football and tennis, and are very keen on drill.

The average attendance at the Protestant Mission School for Chinese girls was 32, the same number as last year.

The attendances at the Roman Catholic Mission Schools were as follows :—

(1) St. Joseph's School for Chinese boys ; 9 as compared with 16 in 1912.

(2) Convent School for non-Chinese girls ; 8 as compared with 10 last year.

(3) Native pupil workers (female) ; 41 as compared with 35 in 1912.

The school established by the Anti-Footbinding Society for girls had an attendance of 24 pupils, or three more than last year.

ANTI-FOOTBINDING SOCIETY.

The Anti-Footbinding Society formed in 1912 continued to make efforts to induce the people to realize the evils of foot-binding, and a large meeting was held in the summer, which was attended by almost all the village headmen, 305 in all, and as a result the Government was petitioned to issue proclamations upon the subject. This was done, but the response from the villagers was not as cordial as was expected. It is not practicable under present conditions to penalize foot-binding, or to allow a bounty on the marriage of natural-footed women, as has been suggested, and all that the Government can do under present circumstances is to show a sympathetic interest in the movement. A number of girls under twelve years of age are now left with feet unbound, but it is rather more than can be expected of the people of a remote corner of the very conservative province of Shantung to attempt to set up a new fashion—for that is what it amounts to—when the majority of their neighbours will have none of it. The main resistance to the introduction of this reform is said to come from the women, who, apart from the fear of appearing ridiculously out of fashion, probably in their hearts fear the handicap that natural-footed girls would suffer in the matrimonial market so long as men appear to prefer wives with bound feet. If males could be persuaded to marry only natural footed females, it would not be long before foot-binding would become a custom of the past.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

General.

The total number of cases of all sorts heard by the magistrates during 1913 amounted to 773, as compared with 868 in 1912. Of these 497 were heard at the South Court and 276 at the North Court, the corresponding figures for 1912 being 582 and 286 respectively. Of these the great majority were civil actions heard by the magistrates exercising the jurisdiction of the High Court.

From October 1st the charge for petition fees in civil actions was increased from $2 to $3. This increase, considerable as it seems, has had a very beneficial effect in helping to reduce the number of petty and often frivolous disputes brought into court, whilst it has not in any way deterred people who were seriously aggrieved from coming to court. When no petition fees were charged, the volume of litigation in the Courts of Weihaiwei greatly exceeded that of the courts in the Chinese districts across the border. It was felt that, unless some check were applied, the litigation in the Territory would become too great to be dealt with by the existing courts. Moreover, it soon became evident that frivolous cases were brought to the courts which could easily have been settled by arbitration in the time-honoured Chinese way by the village elders, and that the policy of free litigation by encouraging the people to go to law was undermining the authority of the clan and village elders, which it is the policy of this Government to maintain. The imposition of petition fees has undoubtedly checked litigation and encouraged arbitration.

The increase in the number of police has undoubtedly greatly helped to prevent crime. Good harvests in the Territory and neighbourhood and the re-establishment of peace and order across the frontier have also aided in the same direction, and it is gratifying to note that in the latter half of the year no case of robbery by armed gangs was reported.

Besides these more obvious causes, the reduction in lawsuits may also be due to the gradual but sure increase in the prosperity of the Territory under British administration. Here, as elsewhere, there is no more prolific breeder of strife and lawlessness than poverty, and now that improved roads and shipping facilities have made the marketing of his products more certain and profitable for the peasant, he is less liable than before to sudden destitution and its consequent temptations. Then, again, a consideration of the civil law suits brought to court shows that many have their genesis in disputes which originated in times when the country was still under Chinese administration. In those days there was only one Court for an area much larger than the whole of the present Territory, and that court only received petitions on six days of each month. The cost of litigation was so prohibitive that it was generally avoided except in matters of considerable importance or when family or clan feeling ran very high. The cost of litigation was as much due to the interminable adjournments and enforced lodging of principals and witnesses in inns kept by Yamen servants as to court fees, legal and otherwise. When the Chinese realised that under British rule impartial and effective settlements could be obtained from authoritative courts free of cost or at a nominal but fixed charge, much of the suppressed litigation of years was brought to a decision, with the natural consequence that the judicial returns were unduly expanded, Lawsuits of this nature are being gradually exhausted, and the amount of litigation is gradually being reduced to its normal condition, which when reached will probably show that the Weihaiwei peasant is not so litigious as he has hitherto appeared to be.

Civil.

In cases of disputed succession, marriage settlements, disputes as to the ownership of land, and, in general, in cases involving Chinese custom, the opinions of the district headmen and clan elders are frequently consulted, and in all cases of this kind, after the issues have been clearly stated, it is the policy of the magistrates to endeavour to arrange for an amicable settlement before pronouncing a definite decision. When successful this course has the merit of frequently settling the matter in dispute for good. But it often happens, unfortunately, that the person against whom a definite decision is given endeavours in a subsequent action, generally unconnected with the original action, to pay off old scores and regain the " face " he has lost. The Weihaiwei peasant is revengeful, tenacious of purpose, and does not easily forget a supposed wrong.

Seven actions were decided on appeal from the magistrates by the Judge of the High Court, the decisions of the magistrates being practically upheld in each case.

This year, as last year, the most troublesome cases were those concerned with disputes about common lands and pasturage. The principle has now been definitely laid down that all waste land is Crown property, and any person wishing to bring such land into cultivation must apply for permission to do so, notice of his intention being given to any possible objectors. The disputes about pasturage are due largely to closer settlement and the increase of population, and the main difficulty in dealing with these cases is not so much in formulating a judgment or principle as in carrying it out in practice. The peasants, with minds clouded by protractod and heated arguments on special points and side-issues during the long winter evenings, find it difficult to understand why the oracles of local wisdom have to be set aside in favour of arguments based on broad principles of justice and equity.

With the exception of these cases the year, as far as magisterial work was concerned, might be described as satisfactory and normal.

Criminal.

Four cases of murder, burglary and breaking prison, housebreaking and uttering false coins were committed for trial before the High Court. In the first case an acquittal resulted : in the others the accused were convicted.

Ten cases of robbery by armed gangs were brought to the notice of the magistrates in the early part of the year, but in most of these cases the robberies had taken place over the border.

Two Weihaiwei fishermen were shot by pirates outside the waters of the Territory. These cases were probably due to the disorders beyond the frontier.

There were several cases of abduction. Many raids were carried out by the Police in connection with gambling, which continues to be by far the most prevalent vice amongst the people. During the latter half of the year the Territory enjoyed a remarkable immunity from serious crimes.

LEGISLATION.

Seven Ordinances were passed during the year :—

No. 1.—The Chinese Marriage Preservation Ordinance.
No. 2.—The Shipping Dues Ordinance (1905) Amendment Ordinance.
No. 3.—The Rehearings Ordinance.
No. 4.—The Vehicles Ordinance.
No. 5.—The Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance.
No. 6.—The Pensions Ordinance (1904) Amendment Ordinance.
No. 7.—The Wild Birds and Game Preservation Ordinance (1907) Amendment Ordinance.

The increase in the revenue collected during the financial year is chiefly due to the augmented dues collected under the amended Shipping Dues Ordinance. The Rehearings Ordinance provides for the rehearing by the High Court in certain eventualities of cases tried before the magistrates. The steady diminution of wild game in the Territory rendered the last Ordinance a necessity.

Before any legislation or administrative measures likely to affect Chinese customs and village life are put in force care is always taken to ascertain as far as possible the opinion of the Chinese through the district and village headmen. This is done in pursuance of the policy of the Government, which has invariably endeavoured not only to maintain, but also to strengthen and consolidate, the village organization. That organization is based on the principles of filial piety, which have proved themselves best suited to Chinese social polity. The authority of the father, the village elders and the headmen is the corner-stone of Chinese society, and it is the constant endeavour of the head of this Government and of the " father and mother officials," as the magistrates are styled, to support this authority, to the maintenance of which is chiefly due the peaceful and orderly behaviour of the 150,000 inhabitants of this Territory. The disintegration of such authority would render it impossible to carry on the work of administration with the small staff which is under present circumstances found to be sufficient.

LIGHTHOUSES.

The working of the tower apparatus at both lighthouses was satisfactory throughout the year 1913.

A new flexible steel wire for clockwork at Tsaopeitsui Lighthouse has been provided, and minor adjustments to the mechanism were made when necessary at both lighthouses.

The buildings were kept in good order, and the staff carried out their duties in a satisfactory manner under the supervision of Engineer Commander Harris, to whom this Government is much indebted for his assistance in superintending lighthouses and also in other matters requiring expert advice.

AFFORESTATION.

Considerable progress was made with the afforestation of the island of Liukung, but owing to want of moisture a number of young trees died. The afforestation work was carried out by the prisoners sentenced to imprisonment in the island gaol, under the direction of Inspector Whittaker. In addition to the planting of a considerable number of willow and acacia trees, 250,000 seedling fir trees from Japan were bedded out and 18,000 small fir trees were planted out on the hills.

A belt of fir trees on the Island was attacked by caterpillars in great numbers. Natives were employed to gather the pests by hand and 263 lb. of caterpillars were collected and destroyed. By this timely measure much damage was averted, as experience on the mainland shows that these " fir dogs," as they are called by the natives, are capable of eating up and killing off whole forests.

The Government plantations on the mainland were added to and more trees were planted along the roads.

Inspector Whittaker gained much experience during a visit to Tsingtao where, by the courtesy of the German authorities, he was able to compare their methods with those adopted here and to obtain much useful information.

Owing to the scarcity of firewood and the length of the winter, incalculable damage has been done to the hillsides of the province of Shantung by the long established practice on the part of the natives of scraping the banks and hillsides for grass and roots, which they use for fuel. Whole villages are employed in this manner throughout the winter, and it is scarcely too much to say that not a square yard of the hillsides goes unscraped. This practice has been forbidden on the island of Liukung, but it is impossible to check it on the mainland, owing to want of staff. As long as it continues successful afforestation work is seriously impeded, as by it the hills are deprived of earth, the ground is robbed of its natural fertilisers and exposed to the direct rays of the sun, so that the trees cannot resist a long period of drought. If this Government were able to undertake afforestation on an extensive scale it would be necessary to devise some means of providing the villagers with fuel during the first few years of such afforestation work before the suppression of this practice could be effected without serious trouble.

OPIUM.

No Indian opium, the import of which into the province of Shantung was prohibited from the 15th of June, 1913, has been imported into this Territory under official licence since 1909.

The number of licensed opium smokers was 30, as compared with 36 in the previous year, and the number of convictions for offences under the Ordinance was 19, as compared with 47 in 1912. The average age of persons licensed to smoke opium under medical certificate is now 61 years.

The increased price of the drug, the difficulty of procuring it, the known keenness of the police, and the comparatively heavy fines inflicted have had the effect of reducing the consumption in the Territory to a marked extent. Opium may still be consumed clandestinely, but such consumption is confined to inveterate smokers, and is condemned by the public opinion of the Chinese in this Territory, the population of which as a whole is, and always has been, opposed to opium smoking.

It is a regrettable fact that drinking appears to be on the increase and this is probably to a great extent due to the suppression of the opium habit. The liquor drunk by the native is almost entirely Chinese spirits. Foreign liquors are not drunk by them. Weihaiwei is still a very sober community, but individual cases of drunkenness, which formerly were extremely rare, and which cannot yet be regarded as numerous when compared with the total population, are more frequent than formerly. Owing to Chinese habits and temperament drunkenness seldom assumes a violent form, and cases in which the police have to interfere are very infrequent.

HOSPITALS.

There were 4,867 out-patients and 140 in-patients treated at the hospital at Port Edward, making a total of 5,007, as compared with 5,063 in 1912, when out-patients numbered 4,923 and in-patients 140. 106 operations were performed, as compared with 100 during the previous year.

The Medical Assistant stationed at Wênch'uant'ang, where the Government maintains a dispensary for the benefit of the people in the out-districts, was away on leave for seven weeks, during which time the dispensary was closed. There were during the year 3,505 new cases, with 6,774 attendances, as compared with 4,009 new cases and 7,328 attendances in 1912.

In the hospital on the Island 4,598 cases were treated, as against 3,893 in 1912.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

On the whole, the public health during the year was good. The summer was comparatively cool and dry, and the advantages of Weihaiwei as a summer resort were evident.

During the spring and the late autumn there was a slight recrudescence of small-pox in the Territory. This, fortunately, did not assume serious dimensions, although the disease was, as usual, very widely spread beyond the frontier. This fact is presumably to be attributed to the vaccination campaigns carried on for so many years. 5,237 vaccinations were performed during the year as compared with 3,593 in 1912.

SANITATION.

The sanitary inspectors and the staff acting under the instructions of the Medical Officers did excellent work. A decrease in the number of flies on the Island was noted. During the year the public lodging-houses, butcher shops, and baths were licensed and registered, as well as the laundries, and this should facilitate more efficient sanitary supervision.

The sanitary conditions in Port Edward and on the Island were satisfactory and the conservancy arrangements worked well.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The highest monthly barometrical average was for January 30·358 inches, and the lowest for May, 29·567 inches. The average monthly range was ·649. The highest temperature was 91° in August, and the lowest 1° in February.

Rain or snow fell on 47 days, the fall for the year being 19·07 inches. July was the wettest month, with 5·91 inches. During the past fifteen years the average rainfall was 28·88 inches. The rainfall of the two lowest years was 15·76 and 16·59 in 1900 and 1912 respectively, and of the two highest 40·23 and 39·60 in 1905 and 1911 respectively.

A detailed meteorological return is given in the appendix.

POSTAL.

The number of mails despatched by steamers and couriers to Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin and Hong Kong was 795, composed of 905 bags, etc., comprising, in addition to ordinary correspondence, 3,142 registered articles and parcels.

The number of mails received from Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin and Hong Kong was 929, made up of 1,211 bags, etc., which consisted of 3,171 registered articles and parcels besides ordinary correspondence.

The total receipts for the sale of postage stamps and postal orders during the year were as follows:—

Postage stamps	$6,627.65
Imperial Postal Notes	8,498.77
Local Postal Notes	4,094.15
	$19,220.57

The general total shows a decrease on that of the previous year by the sum of $17,658·26. The Admiralty rates for postal orders during the year were much lower than those charged by the post office, with the result that the sales at the Post Offices were considerably reduced.

The number of mails despatched in closed bags to the General Post Office, London, via Siberia, was 272, composed of 272 bags containing 64,156 ordinary letters, 3,274 postcards and 1,359 registered articles. The total net and gross weights were 1,183,111 grammes and 1,474,615 grammes respectively.

The number of letters received by the Siberian route was 15,652 and the postcards totalled 618; in addition to this 70 closed bags of mail were received for the Fleet. London letters for Weihaiwei are enclosed in the mails for Chefoo, where the letters are sorted and forwarded here. The quickest time in which a mail reached here from London via Siberia was 14 days.

The number of parcels despatched and received via Siberia totalled 1 and 19 respectively; of the latter the quickest was received in 22 days.

Chinese Post Office mails arriving by steamers from Treaty ports have, as before, been taken delivery of and distributed by the British Post Office. The landing, shipping and closing of mails are carried on from the Port Edward Office.

The greater part of the Post Office takings is from the sale of stamps and postal orders at the Liukung Office during the stay of the fleet at Weihaiwei.

Special facilities for the receipt and despatch of Siberian mails were maintained by the regular sailings of the small steamers between here and Chefoo.

The courier service between Weihaiwei and Chefoo leaves every second day.

GAOL.

One hundred and eighty persons were sentenced to imprisonment during the year, as compared with 186 during 1912, the average daily number of prisoners in gaol being 30, or nine less than the daily average during 1912.

The health of the prisoners was very good.

The prison staff performed its work in a satisfactory manner. A new clockwork register was introduced and has proved a success.

There were three floggings inflicted during the year and 24 cases of minor breaches of prison discipline. The general behaviour of the prisoners was good, and there was only one case of continued malingering.

The prisoners were employed during the year in useful work on the Island—roadmaking, repairing seawall and piers, stone-breaking, making clothing, gardening, planting trees, &c.

BRITISH SQUADRON AND FOREIGN SHIPS OF WAR.

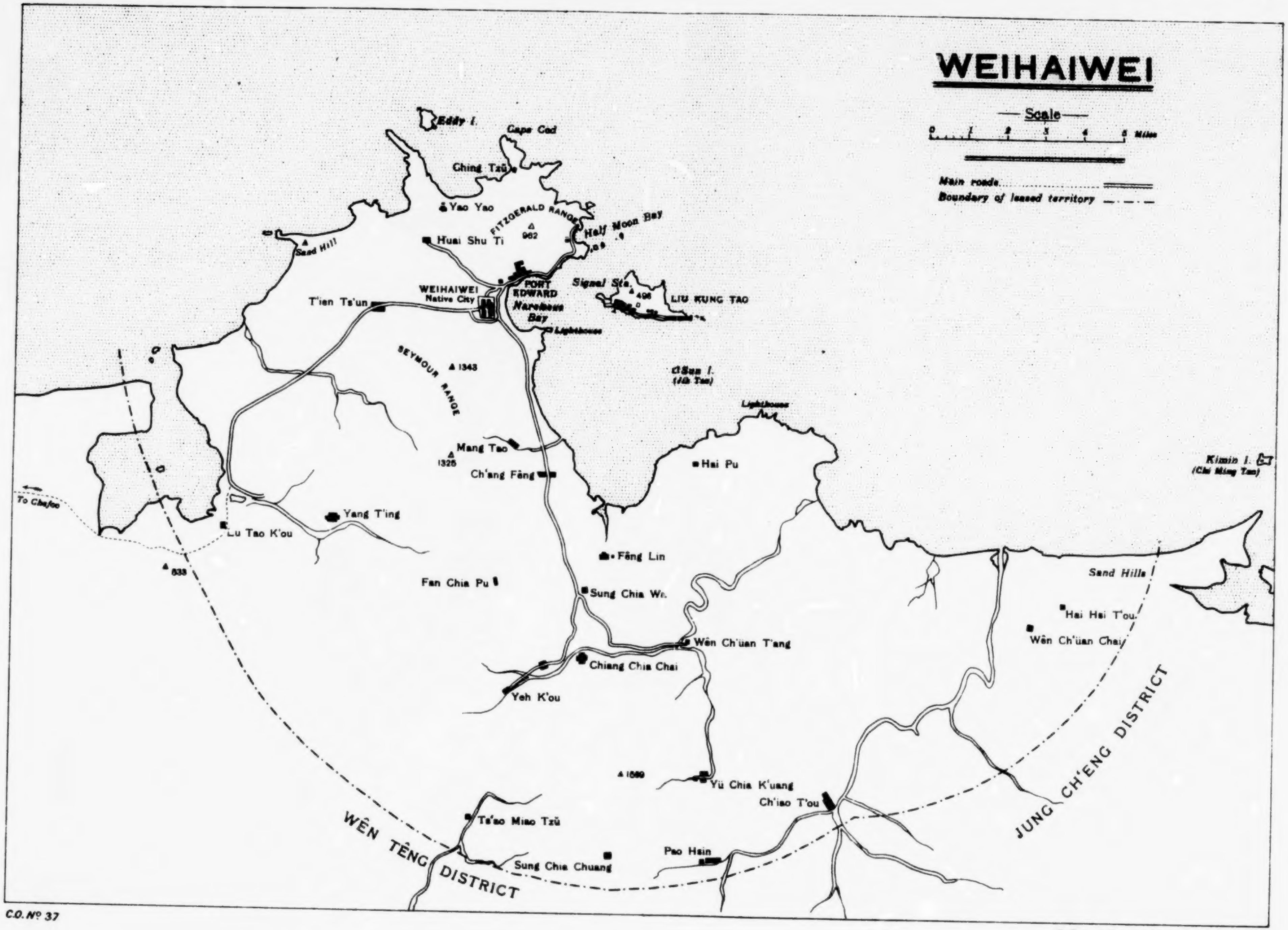
The British Squadron under the command of Vice-Admiral T. H. M. Jerram, K.C.B., arrived about the middle of May. Weihaiwei was glad to welcome Vice-Admiral Jerram once more to its waters.

Owing to the disturbances in the Yangtze valley consequent on the rebellion against the authority of President Yüan Shih-k'ai, His Majesty's ships were called away for about a month in July and August. The squadron did not leave again until October, after having carried out its usual gunnery and tactical exercises.

A Japanese squadron of four cruisers and four destroyers under the command of Vice-Admiral Ijichi visited Weihaiwei for four days in March. Visits were also made by the French man-of-war "d'Iberville," Captain Roméo, in June, the Austrian "Kaiser Franz Joseph I," Captain von Nauta, in September, and the Japanese "Akitsushima," Captain Aoyama, in November.

J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Commissioner.

Government House,
Weihaiwei.
8th July, 1914.



C.O. Nº 37

Ordnance Survey Office. Southampton. 1914.

APPENDIX.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN FOR 1913.

1913.	BAROMETER.				TEMPERATURE.						RAIN OR SNOW.		
	Highest in Month.	Lowest in Month.	Mean of Month.	Range.	Highest in Month.	Lowest in Month.	Range in Month.	Mean of Highest.	Mean of Lowest.	Mean Daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount Collected.	
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	F.	F.	F.	F.	F.	F.			
January ..	30·790	29·954	30·358	·836	47	5	42	35	17	18	4	·30	Snow twice.
February ..	30·778	29·822	30·265	·956	52	1	51	41	15	26	1	·07	Snow.
March ..	30·576	29·740	30·147	·836	75	17	58	48	31	17	1	·18	Snow.
April ..	30·286	29·366	30·001	·920	72	34	38	60	43	17	5	1·98	
May	30·192	29·540	29·567	·652	83	45	38	71	53	18	2	·85	
June ..	29·950	29·310	29·719	·640	88	58	30	76	62	10	9	4·83	
July ..	29·996	29·496	29·801	·500	87	61	26	78	67	11	10	5·91	
August ..	30·022	29·634	29·839	·388	91	61	30	83	69	14	5	2·64	
September ..	30·146	29·830	30·023	·316	87	57	30	79	59	20	1	·56	
October ..	30·440	29·880	30·177	·560	84	44	40	66	53	13	3	1·06	
November ..	30·652	30·000	30·312	·652	67	29	38	54	40	14	3	·44	
December ..	30·580	30·050	30·303	·530	54	18	36	39	28	11	3	·25	Snow twice.
Mean ..	·367	29·719	30·042	·649	74	36	38	62	45	15	*47	*19·07	

* Total.

PORT EDWARD,
WEIHAIWEI.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
769	Basutoland	1912–1913
770	Gold Coast	1912
771	Ashanti	"
772	Nyasaland	1912–1913
773	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
774	British Solomon Islands	"
775	Colonial Survey Committee	"
776	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1911–1913
777	Swaziland	1912–1913
778	Imperial Institute	1912
779	Barbados	1912–1913
780	British Guiana	"
781	Entomological Research Committee	"
782	Southern Nigeria	1912
783	Jamaica	1912-1913
784	British Honduras	1912
785	Northern Nigeria	"
786	Malta	1912-1913
787	Uganda	"
788	Mauritius	1912
789	Straits Settlements	"
790	Trinidad and Tobago	1912-1913
791	East Africa Protectorate	"
792	Grenada	1912
793	Leeward Islands	1912–1913
794	St. Lucia	"
795	St. Vincent	"
796	Bermuda	1912
797	Ceylon	"
798	Gibraltar	1913
799	St. Helena	"
800	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
801	Seychelles	"
802	Ceylon	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 845.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 804.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
June, 1915.

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APR 15 1916

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 845.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 804.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
10th May, 1915.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the Territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1914.

I have, &c.,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

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REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1914.

GENERAL.

Weihaiwei was adversely affected in 1914 by the war and the weather, and it is a matter for congratulation that the prosperity of the territory has not received a severe set-back. Phenomenal drought until the middle of July was succeeded by a record rainfall and a succession of severe storms which prevailed throughout the autumn and winter. Much havoc was done to the crops, and buildings and public works suffered heavily. The war and the consequent fall in exchange, together with the early departure of the fleet and the curtailment of the season for visitors, caused heavy losses to farmers and merchants. When the war broke out the people were inclined to panic (as wild rumours revived memories of the Chino-Japanese war, the Boxer troubles, and the late revolutionary conflicts, from all of which the population of this territory and the neighbouring districts of China had suffered much). Confidence was restored by the Government explaining the situation to the merchants and the village headmen, and when Tsingtao was blockaded the people were fully reassured. They had heard a great deal about German methods of government, and especially about their land system, taxation, and discrimination against the native population, and were terrified at the prospect of an alien domination based on similar principles. Very little is now heard about the war among the Chinese population.

An attempt by the Chinese authorities to levy new fishing dues from a large fishing fleet visiting the small port of Shihtao, in Shantung, led to a serious riot, in the course of which some Chinese officials were assaulted. Among the rioters were included a large number of Weihaiwei fishermen, who apparently took the lead. Irregularities were committed by the Chinese police in dealing with some Weihaiwei sailors who put into the port in ignorance of the riot. A satisfactory settlement was eventually made with the Chinese authorities, with whom intercourse has been as usual very friendly.

STAFF.

Mr. R. F. Johnston returned from leave in May and resumed his duties as District Officer, Southern District, at Wênchúantáng. Mr. G. S. Moss, of H.M. Consular Service, on being relieved by Mr. R. F. Johnston, took over the duties of District Officer, Northern District, at Port Edward from Mr. E. G. Jamieson, of H.M. Consular Service, who returned to Peking. Dr. H. J. Hickin proceeded home on leave in April, and resigned from the service of this Government in November. Whilst he was on leave, his duties were discharged by Dr. J. F. Molyneux. Mr. F. G. Crudge returned from home leave in November and took over his duties as Inspector of Police and Financial Assistant.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $109,687, as compared with $93,780 during the previous year, which shows an increase of $15,907. The expenditure during the year amounted to $148,145, as compared with $166,960, the expenditure of the previous year, which shows a decrease of $18,815. The revenue for 1914–15 is the highest collected since this territory came under British rule, the revenue for the year 1904–5, which amounted to $105,934, being the next highest.

The following are the heads of revenue and expenditure for last year as compared with those of the previous year:—

REVENUE.

Head.	1913–14.	1914–15.
Licences and Internal Revenue ..	$61,000	$76,950
Fees of Court	10,677	13,938
Rents of Government Property, Land, and Houses	17,827	16,139
Interest and Miscellaneous	4,276	2,660
Total ..	$93,780	$109,687

The chief increases were under the headings of Registration of Transfers and Shipping Dues, which amounted to $12,254 and $24,997, as compared with $9,174 and $14,520 during the previous year.

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	1913–14.	1914–15.
Commissioner's Establishment ..	$24,161	$26,464
District Officer, Northern District ..	11,198	12,089
District Officer, Southern District ..	7,682	4,495
Police and Gaol	40,282	35,373
Medical and Sanitary	16,989	16,931
Public Works	32,709	19,756
Public Works Department	2,503	2,590
Forestry Department	1,633	1,459
Miscellaneous Services	29,803	29,028
Total ..	$166,960	$148,185

The total revenue and expenditure for the last five years are as follows:—

Years.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1910–11	$75,353	$145,028
1911–12	74,673	153,690
1912–13	79,582	146,146
1913–14	93,780	166,960
1914–15	109,687	148,185

The deficit each year has been met by a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds, which has been as follows during the past five years :—

Years.	Amount.
	£
1910–11	5,000
1911–12	6,000
1912–13	6,000
1913–14	8,300
1914–15	5,000

PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of an extensive nature were carried out during the year. Several old buildings at the Port Edward Hospital were demolished and new buildings were erected on the same sites. Some necessary alterations were also carried out in the ward for women. The buildings demolished were native houses that had been adapted to suit the requirements of the Hospital.

The District Officer's residence at Wênchûantâng developed some serious defects which necessitated certain structural alterations, and there being no adequate stabling accommodation for the Police and District Officer's ponies and mules at Wênchûantâng, a stable and mafoo's quarters were erected.

The barracks leased by Messrs. Burnip and Macdougall, Limited, were, with the exception of two blocks, put into a sound state of repair, and the old officers' quarters leased by Mr. D. Clark were thoroughly repaired by the lessees.

The roads of the territory suffered very severely during the heavy rainstorms in August and September, and several bridges had to be extensively repaired. They have been improved in reconstruction and more attention has been paid to draining the roads. The contract for the maintenance of a portion of the government roads has been handed over experimentally to the villagers who live in the neighbourhood. It is hoped in this way to give the poorer country people employment in stone breaking during the winter and to enlist their interest in the roads.

Experiments in road repairing were conducted with a view to test the value of the present system and of the different kinds of stone available, and to check the work carried out by the road contractor.

POLICE.

The health of the force was, as usual, excellent. The conduct of the force was on the whole very good.

On the outbreak of the war a good deal of extra duty was imposed on the police, which was discharged efficiently and cheerfully. The behaviour of the men in all weathers has been very praiseworthy and they have maintained a very high standard of efficiency, which is due very largely to the good example of the men who formerly belonged to the Weihaiwei Regiment, and who form the backbone of the force.

Special praise is due to the activity of the police in effecting the arrest of suspected criminals.

Very few cases of discovered crime go unpunished in the territory, and in this regard the Police Force has an exceptionally good record. The general standard of natural intelligence, physique, and endurance is very high, and the sergeants and corporals show at times much resource and initiative. There is keen competition for vacancies in the ranks, and the relations between the police and the people appear to be excellent. No complaints have been received as to the manner of the collection of dues, cart-taxes, supervision of quarries, etc., etc., which they have carried out in a tactful and efficient manner. A section of police under a corporal has been entrusted with the duties of Water Police. This arrangement produced satisfactory results in the regulation of junk traffic in the harbour, the collection of shipping dues, junk and sampan licences, and the prevention of smuggling. A more efficient system of patrols in the territory has been introduced and the police in outlying stations are relieved every three months.

The police were able to afford considerable assistance in cases of wrecks, which were unfortunately frequent during the year, and on one occasion behaved with much gallantry.

Twenty-three cases of attempted suicide were saved from ending fatally during the year by the intervention of the police, who have been taught to render first aid by the application of emetics. The assistance thus rendered is much appreciated by the people. As has been pointed out in previous reports, suicide is usually effected by the swallowing of arsenic, or the heads of phosphorus matches dissolved in spirits, and is mostly resorted to by women in a fit of passion or pique.

FIRE BRIGADE.

The volunteer fire brigade on the Island and at Port Edward practised assiduously under the direction of the Inspectors, and in the case of a fire on the Island had the gratification of being the first on the scene, and it was largely due to the efforts of the volunteers that the fire was kept from spreading to serious dimensions.

TRADE.

Steamer freights have been low, owing to the cutting of rates by the Japanese, but in spite of this fact prospects were most promising up to the outbreak of war. Since then, however, there has been a good deal of cargo appearing, but, owing to the scarcity of British tonnage, Japanese vessels have reaped the benefit.

The blockade of Tsingtao did not harm the trade of Weihaiwei. On the contrary, this port supplied some of the coast towns formerly fed by Tsingtao, notably with timber, kerosene oil, matches, and cotton yarn.

Exporters of groundnuts, groundnut oil, and salt suffered heavily. The groundnut harvest was spoilt by the rains and very poor prices were realised, owing to the war closing the Hamburg market, which was the most important for the local product.

The effect of the war was seen in the cessation of supplies of German artificial dyes and indigo, but otherwise imports were not much affected. There was a large import of gunny-bags, and the salt-fish export to southern ports increased.

Timber from the Yalu valley was plentiful and cheap, owing to the exceptionally heavy rains, which enabled it to be floated down from hillsides usually inaccessible.

The trade in human hair-nets is growing and Government has been able to introduce some useful customers to the trade.

The experimental tobacco farm established by the British-American Tobacco Company was very unfortunate in the weather conditions, but some good quality leaf was produced, and with the experience gained the prospects for the next season are encouraging. The Company has been successful in enlisting the co-operation of the native farmers, who are watching the results with interest as well as caution.

SHIPPING.

The total number of steamers which called here during the year, exclusive of ships which came into harbour simply for shelter, was 672, with a total net tonnage of 631,578 tons, as compared with 754 steamers, with a total net tonnage of 608,003, in 1913. These figures include 133 small coasting steamers under 300 tons, as compared with 219 in 1913.

The chief inward cargoes were sugar, flour, kerosene oil, cotton yarn, matches.

The chief outward cargoes were groundnuts, salt, saltfish.

2,351 junks entered and cleared with cargo, their chief imports being groundnuts, Chinese wine, timber, coal, old iron, fish, salt; their chief exports (including re-exports) were sugar, flour, kerosene, cotton yarn, and salt fish.

EDUCATION.

No change took place during the year in the number of village schools, which functioned as usual. Except at Port Edward there is no attempt at higher education, though the standard of country schools compares favourably with that of the surrounding provincial districts.

Seven scholarships were awarded as the result of an examination held at the Government School in July. The scholarship funds are provided by voluntary taxation of village theatricals, of which the people are very fond, the performances having partly a religious and partly a social significance. The examination is open to boys from the territory, but it is proposed to open the examination to the pupils of all schools in the territory, irrespective of birth qualifications. The number of those examined this year was less, but the standard attained was higher, than last year. It was a remarkable fact that no less than five out of seven scholarships awarded went to one school.

The work of the Government Free School was satisfactory, and the average attendance was 69. Much attention is paid to the teaching of practical hygiene, and the boys are drilled regularly; also, in the words of one of their masters, "they play football in order to make them stronger in their physical strength and cheerful."

At the Church of England Mission School the number of pupils was about the same as the previous year, 48. Most of them pursued the Chinese and English curriculum, as boys are discouraged from dropping Chinese unless they are well advanced.

There is still a great tendency among the students to change their schools frequently, which is not conducive to their educational advancement.

The average attendance at the Protestant Mission School for Chinese girls in Port Edward was 42.

The attendance at the Roman Catholic School for boys at Port Edward was 20, 17 boys being taught at two small schools in the country.

The school for girls established by the Chinese Anti-footbinding Society was attended by 24 scholars, all of whom had natural feet.

Prizes were given after the examinations by the Commissioner.

JUDICIAL.

The number of cases heard by the magistrates of the Northern and Southern Districts in 1914 was 852, as compared with 773 in 1913, and 868 in 1912. Six civil actions were re-heard by the High Court, which also dealt with two cases of serious crime.

The most serious case was one of armed burglary which resulted in the murder of one person. Three men were implicated, two of whom were arrested, the principal felon making good his escape. The result of the trial was that the two accused were convicted and sentenced to five years' imprisonment each.

In another case two men nearly strangled a woman in an inn in an attempt to rob her. They were convicted and punished severely.

A few cases of abduction or kidnapping were dealt with by the magistrates. These cases are of a kind peculiar to China, and, being due to local conditions and customs, cannot be fairly judged by European standards. There are more men than women in the territory, and as wives are necessary for household work,,and every Chinese considers it his sacred duty to beget or adopt a son to maintain him in his old age, and to carry on the family worship, he is prepared to go to great lengths in order to ensure this laudable aim, which in the eyes of the people often justifies questionable means. Young women, usually poor widows with children, are thus bought or enticed from other parts of the country to serve as wives. Where investigation discloses fraud the brokers are punished, and the women are given an opportunity to return home, or are married to respectable men, who are bound over to protect them and to bring up and educate the children suitably.

On the whole there was very little crime in 1914, and a welcome absence of acrimonious disputes between villages concerning grazing and common lands, those which occurred having been settled amicably.

The usual large number of convictions for gambling were recorded in spite of the fact that the police were instructed to distinguish between friendly games and gambling for stakes in places accessible to the public. Respectable opinion is strongly against the vice, and the principles under which the law declares gambling to be punishable are thoroughly understood by the people. The born gambler, moreover, rarely grumbles at being fined, and is apparently willing to gamble on the chance of not being caught. The love of gambling is so ingrained in many of the illiterate peasants, who have to go through a long and dreary winter, that there does not seem to be much hope of eradicating the evil, though the enforcement of the law helps to check it.

Drunkenness does not appear to be increasing in the country districts. Those cases which were brought into Court were almost all due to urban influences, and most of the convictions were recorded against non-territory Chinese. Southern Chinese appear to be more addicted to the vice than the Northerners, or, at any rate, are more quarrelsome in their cups.

The increase in the fees charged on petitions from $2 to $3 in civil actions, which commenced on October 1st, had the effect of lessening the number of civil actions to a slight extent, but it did not apparently deter people from bringing serious differences to the Courts. The working of the Courts in civil cases may be regarded as satisfactory as there were very few applications for re-hearing, and no arrears. In the more complicated cases it is usual for the magistrates to sit with assessors, which system works well and is appreciated by the people. The Courts are easily accessible, procedure is very simple, and litigation cheap, each party paying $3 on filing the written pleadings, other costs being restricted to the expenses of the witnesses, which are strictly taxed.

LEGISLATION.

Six Ordinances were passed during the year :—

No. 1.—The Land Registration Ordinance.
No. 2.—The Pensions Ordinance, 1904, Amendment Ordinance.
No. 3.—The Secretary to Government's (Change of Name) Ordinance.
No. 4.—The Copyright Ordinance.
No. 5.—The Harbour Regulation Ordinance.
No. 6.—The Wild Birds and Game Preservation Ordinance.

Owing to the unsatisfactory state of the land registers taken over from the Chinese Government, the question of the registration of land conveyances and mortgages received considerable attention. It was at first proposed to make such registration compulsory, but owing to legal objections the new Ordinance (No. 1) eventually took the form of substituting considerable advantage for compulsion and punishment. A very marked increase in registrations has followed, much to the benefit of the administration as well as of the revenue.

Land registration revenue has increased from $822.36 in 1905–6 and $2,489.19 in 1909–10 to $12,254.50 in 1914–15, but a large proportion of this increase is due to increased fees. The facilities given appear, however, to have appealed to the people, who register much more freely than they used to under the old system.

Ordinance No. 3 changes the title of Secretary to Government to District Officer. There are two District Officers in the Territory, distinguished as District Officers of the Northern and Southern Districts.

Ordinance No. 5 was introduced owing to the urgent necessity of regulating junk and sampan traffic in the harbour, to which attention was forcibly invited through a Coroner's verdict following on the death from drowning of a woman in a sampan, which drifted on to a steamer's propeller.

Ordinance No. 6 took the place of former Ordinances on the same subject, and it is hoped that its provisions will help to prevent the extermination of game in the territory, especially as the co-operation of the village headmen has been enlisted.

Any proposed change in legislation which directly affects the people is carefully discussed with their representatives, and two or three times in the year the headmen are summoned to attend conferences, at which they are given opportunities to discuss local affairs. The native mercantile community is kept in close touch with the Government through the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, which is encouraged to discuss any matters affecting its interest.

LIGHTHOUSES.

The working of the tower apparatus at both lighthouses was satisfactory throughout the year.

Minor adjustments in mechanism were carried out as necessary by the staff. The masonry wall on the north side of Flagstaff Point was repaired by contract.

The buildings and compounds were kept in good order, and the staff carried out their duties in a satisfactory manner.

AFFORESTATION.

On the island 500 acacia and 500,000 fir saplings were planted out on the hills in the spring, and 250,000 were bedded out. A good number of the young trees were killed by the severe drought and hot winds, but those which survived throve well in the wet summer. Trees were again attacked by caterpillars, and 2,933 lbs. of these "fir dogs," as they are called by the Chinese, were picked off.

On the mainland acacia seed was threshed and sorted during the winter, and seed beds were planted and great numbers planted out from the old beds, over Government property, and along the roads. It is noticed that acacias thrive much better on the mainland than on the island, where the young shoots appear to be more liable to the ravages of insects. The pseudo-acacia "Robinia" acclimatizes here very well; it is very hardy, grows very fast, stands prolonged droughts well, and is almost immune from the attacks of borers, which do an immense amount of damage to local soft wood trees. It has become a popular tree with the villagers, who appreciate the fact that the fallen leaves in autumn form useful fodder for their cattle. They also plant the trees as hedges to prevent the drifting of sand. The chief drawback of the tree is that its roots spread widely and exhaust the surrounding soil, while the absence of a deep tap-root renders it peculiarly liable to be blown down. It has proved necessary to prop many of the trees planted along the roads.

Much progress was made during the year in lining the Government roads with willow slips and young acacias, and with the help of the village headmen it was found that far fewer trees had been damaged in the winter by boys sent out to collect fire-wood than formerly. By constant care and inspection it is hoped that in two or three years all the roads will be well lined with trees. The Forestry staff has worked well under the Inspectors of Police.

OPIUM.

The number of licensed smokers was 27, as compared with 30 in the previous year, and the number of convictions under the Ordinance was 68, as compared with 19 in 1913.

The average age of persons licensed to smoke opium is now 62 years, as against 61 in 1913.

Towards the end of the year there was a marked increase in the smuggling of opium. Most of the drug seized was stated to have been grown in the Siberian districts adjoining Manchuria, and appears to find its way into this territory through Vladivostock and Dalny. Every attempt is being made to suppress this illicit trade and it is hoped that the seizures already made will act as a deterrent. Scarcely any opium grown in China or India is now seen in this territory.

HOSPITALS.

In the hospital at Port Edward 6,582 out-patients and 188 in-patients were treated, making a total of 6,770 new cases seen, as compared with 5,007 in 1913 and 2,407 in 1907.

The total number of attendances was 12,661, as compared with 7,117 in 1913 and 5,194 in 1907.

335 operations were performed, of which 32 required an anaesthetic. Operations in 1913 and 1907 amounted to 106 and 15 respectively.

In the hospital at Wênchüantáng 3,923 new cases, with 4,844 attendances, were seen, as compared with 3,505 new cases and 6,774 attendances in 1913.

During the year 47 cases were treated in hospital and 32 cases were attended at their own homes.

The Medical Assistant was absent on six weeks' leave during the year.

In the Island hospital 2,168 new cases were seen, in comparison with 2,093 in 1913. 23 new cases were attended in hospital and 35 at the patients' homes, as compared with 16 and 27 respectively in 1913.

During the year 6,077 vaccinations were performed, in comparison with 5,237 in 1913 and 3,757 in 1907.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

Notwithstanding the extreme heat and the excessive rainfall, the general health conditions of the territory were satisfactory. The only infectious cases seen among natives were one of typhus, four of diphtheria, a few cases of German measles and 73 cases of dysentery. In the early part of the year a few mild cases of small-pox occurred in the outlying villages in the west of the territory. The health of the Europeans was good. There was one death, that of a child about six months old, from fever. The only infectious cases seen were one of scarlet fever in a child, several cases of mumps, and three mild cases of dysentery. There were two cases of dysentery among visitors, one of which, in the case of a child, was serious and prolonged but which eventually made a good recovery.

SANITATION.

Important repairs and reconstructions were made in a number of surface drains, notably on the island.

Improvements were made in the conservancy arrangements on the island and mainland.

The Sanitary Inspectors and their staff did their work to the satisfaction of the Medical Officers.

The sanitary conditions in Port Edward and on the island were satisfactory, and the cleanliness of both places is often the subject of favourable comment.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The returns for the year are given in the Appendix.

The highest barometrical reading recorded was 30·866, in November, the lowest was 29·010, in March. The average monthly range was ·694.

The highest temperature recorded was 95° F., in July, and the lowest was 9° F., in January.

Rain or snow fell on 77 days, the fall for the year being 47·70 inches. This is the highest recorded fall of rain during the British occupation, the previous highest being 40·23 in 1905. The lowest recorded rainfall in sixteen years was 15·76 inches, in 1900. The average during the previous fifteen years was 28·88 inches. The wettest months were July, August, and September, with rainfalls of 8·79, 12, and 11·98 inches, respectively.

POSTAL.

The number of mails despatched by this agency by steamers and couriers to Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin and Hong Kong was 704, composed of 877 bags, etc., comprising, in addition to ordinary correspondence, 2,492 registered articles and parcels.

The number of mails received from Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin and Hong Kong was 897, made up of 1,170 bags, etc., which consisted of 2,812 registered articles and parcels besides ordinary correspondence.

The total receipts for the sale of postage stamps and postal orders during the year were as follows:—

Postage stamps	$7,145.50
Imperial Postal Notes	3,852.66
Local Postal Notes	4,073.94
	$15,372.10

The general total shows a decrease on that of the previous year by the sum of $4,148.47. The Admiralty rates for postal orders during the year were much lower than those charged by the Post Office. This, combined with the departure of the fleet at the end of July, occasioned a considerable reduction in the sales.

The number of mails despatched in closed bags to the General Post Office, London, via Siberia, was 191, composed of 198 bags containing 43,752 ordinary letters, 1,866 post-cards, and 974 registered articles. The total net and gross weights were 1,086,968 grammes and 1,312,668 grammes, respectively.

The number of letters received by the Siberian route was 12,413, and the post-cards totalled 436. In addition to this 76 closed bags of mail were received for the fleet. London letters for Weihaiwei are enclosed in the mails for Chefoo, where the letters are sorted and forwarded here.

The quickest time in which a mail reached here from London via Siberia was 15 days.

Chinese Post Office mails arriving by steamers from Treaty Ports have, as hitherto, been taken delivery of and distributed by this office.

The landing, shipping, and closing of mails are carried on from the Port Edward office. The principal part of the postal revenue is derived from the sale of stamps and postal orders to His Majesty's ships.

For the sake of convenience letters from Chinese Post Offices destined for the Chinese City of Weihaiwei and the British Territory are closed in separate bags.

GAOL.

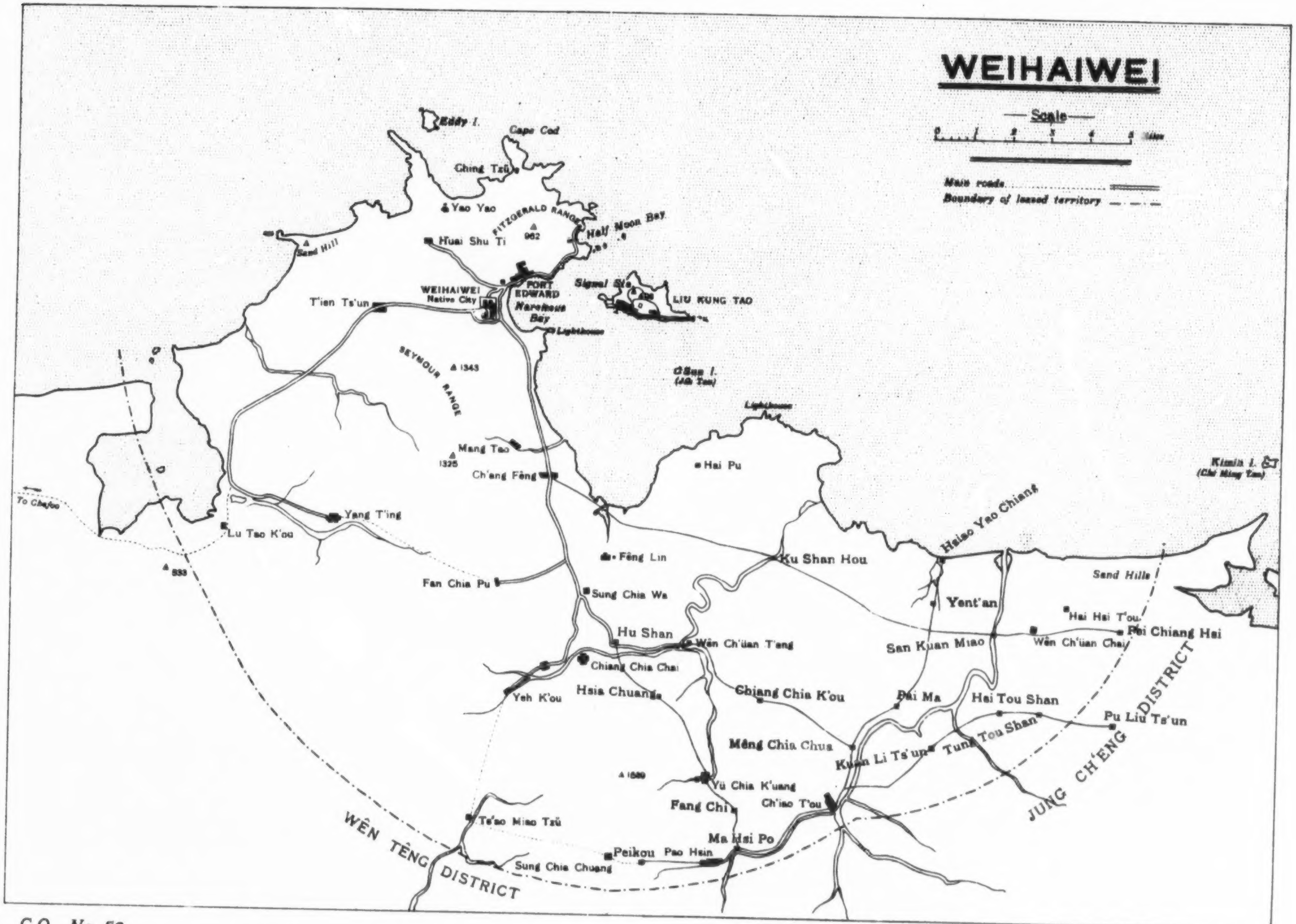
The number of persons sentenced to imprisonment was 135, as compared with 186 in 1913. The average number in gaol per day was 32, as compared with 39 the previous year.

The health of the prisoners was good, as was also their general behaviour. One prisoner imprisoned for a serious offence attempted suicide. Three floggings were inflicted in the course of the year. The prisoners were chiefly occupied in planting trees, repairing roads, seawalls and piers, and drains. Repairs were exceptionally heavy, owing to the unusually excessive rainfall.

J. H. Stewart Lockhart,

Commissioner.

Government House, Weihaiwei,
10th May, 1915.



C.O. No. 59.

Ordnance Survey Office Southampton, 1915.

——— Roads Made.
.... Projected Roads.

APPENDIX.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN FOR 1914.

MONTH.	BAROMETER.				TEMPERATURE.						RAIN OR SNOW.	
	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Mean for the Month.	Range.	Highest in the Month.	Lowest in the Month.	Range in the Month.	Mean of all Highest.	Mean of all Lowest.	Mean Daily Range.	Days it fell.	Amount Collected.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Deg. F.	Deg. F.	Deg. F.	Deg. F.	Deg. F.	Deg. F.		
January ..	30·504	29·580	30·232	·924	50	9	41	39	26	13	2*	·87
February ..	30·400	30·044	30·249	·356	56	21	35	40	31	9	5*	1·50
March ..	30·480	29·010	30·076	1·470	61	21	40	48	36	12	6	1·93
April ..	30·318	29·570	30·019	·748	85	30	55	58	43	15	1	·56
May	30·300	29·736	29·958	·564	86	50	38	76	58	18	4	·74
June ..	29·938	29·602	29·709	·336	91	55	36	82	64	18	5	2·93
July ..	29·932	29·294	29·746	·638	95	67	28	86	73	13	8	8·79
August ..	29·974	29·520	29·812	·454	90	68	22	82	72	10	20	12·00
September ..	30·284	29·668	29·518	·616	86	55	31	76	65	11	14	11·98
October ..	30·396	29·876	30·174	·520	77	48	29	75	56	19	5	4·17
November ..	30·866	29·938	30·093	·928	69	30	39	51	40	11	6	2·17
December ..	30·660	29·870	30·247	·780	56	20	36	40	29	11	1*	·06
Mean ..	30·338	29·642	29·986	·694	75	39	35	64	49	14	†77	†47·70

PORT EDWARD.

* 1 Snow. † Total.

W. M. MUAT, M.B.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
811	Fiji	1913
812	Ashanti	"
813	Basutoland	1913–1914
814	Hong Kong	1913
815	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1913–1914
816	Imperial Institute	1913
817	Falkland Islands	"
818	Malta	1913–1914
819	Trinidad and Tobago	"
820	Jamaica	"
821	Northern Nigeria	1913
822	Grenada	"
823	Zanzibar	"
824	Barbados	1913–1914
825	Southern Nigeria	1913
826	Mauritius	"
827	British Honduras	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913–1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913–1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913–1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Land Settlement.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 885.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1915.

(For Report for 1914 see No. 845.)

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June, 1916.

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No. 885.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1914 see No. 845.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
11th May, 1916

SIR,

I have the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the Territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1915.

I have, &c.,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(C274) Wt. 45316/1003. 1,000 & 90. 7.16. B.&F., Ltd. Gp.11/2.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1915.

STAFF.

Mr. G. S. Moss, of H.M. Consular Service, who had discharged the duties of District Officer for over two years in a very satisfactory manner, was relieved by Mr. E. A. H. Sly, who has been seconded from H. M. Consular Service for a period of two years. Dr. H. W. Bell assumed the duties of Medical Officer in July, previous to which date Fleet Surgeon R. F. Clark had acted as Medical Officer. Mr. (now Sir) F. S. A. Bourne, Judge of the High Court, went on leave in April, and Mr. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, was appointed to act as Judge. Sir F. S. A. Bourne rendered valuable services to this Government.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $115,662, as compared with $109,687 during the previous year, which shows an increase of $5,975. The expenditure during the year amounted to $155,967, as compared with $148,185 the expenditure of the previous year, which shows an increase of $7,722.

The deficit each year has been met by a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds of £5,000 for the year 1914–15, and £3,500 for the year 1915–16.

PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of any magnitude were carried out during the year. The only new building erected was the Hospital for Chinese on the Island.

During the year the British and mercantile community invited the attention of the Government to the necessity for increased pier accommodation in order to afford greater facilities for the landing and shipping of cargo. A Committee was appointed, and strongly recommended the erection of a pier at Wuk'ou, which is the centre of the Chinese business quarter. It is hoped that, in the interests of the commercial development of Weihaiwei, the recommendations of the Committee will be ultimately carried out.

POLICE.

The health and behaviour of the police were very good. Only one serious case of illness occurred.

The usual musketry training was carried out during the summer. 80 per cent. of the men reached the standard of marksmen and first-class shots.

FIRE BRIGADE.

The volunteer fire brigade still works satisfactorily. Fire drills are carried out monthly but the services of the brigade have been only required once during the past year.

TRADE.

The trade at Weihaiwei has not suffered from the War as much as the merchants might have anticipated at the end of 1914. Exchange was against the import trade, which was also affected by the enhancement in the price of the chief articles of import such as sugar, flour, cotton yarn, &c.; but there was a good export trade in groundnuts, groundnut kernels, groundnut oil, as will be seen from the following figures:—

	1914.	1915.
Groundnut Kernels ..	187,793 piculs* ..	247,372 piculs
Groundnuts	4,724 „ ..	10,214 „
Groundnut Oil ..	10,788 „ ..	25,519 „

This great increase was due to certain places in Chinese territory situated beyond Ts'ingtao having shipped their products to Weihaiwei instead of to the former port.

The export of salt-fish, wet and dried, was good, and about the same as in 1914. There was also an increase in the export of salt.

The principal imports were:—

Flour, cotton yarn, matches, timbers, and sugar, which all, except the last, showed a considerable decrease as compared with the previous year.

The imports of kerosene oil were as follows:

	1914.	1915.
Standard Oil Company ..	41,200 ..	37,200 units†
Asiatic Petroleum „ ..	2,300 ..	4,600 „

---

*1 picul = 133 lbs. †1 unit = 8 gallons.

The trade in human hair-nets showed an increase, and it is hoped that it will continue to develop.

The experimental farm established by the British-American Tobacco Company had a better year than during 1914.

SHIPPING.

The total number of steamers which called here during the year, exclusive of those which came into harbour for shelter, was 668, with a total net tonnage of 596,334 tons, as compared with 672 steamers, with a total net tonnage of 631,578 tons, in 1914. As regards the nationalities of the steamers visiting Weihaiwei, the principal were as follows:—

British, 433; Chinese, 139; and Japanese, 85.

3,466 junks entered and cleared as against 2,351 in 1914. This satisfactory increase is due to vigilance on the part of the water police, and also to the fact that before May, 1914, no shippping dues were collected on outward cargo.

The principal inward cargoes by junk were groundnut oil, groundnuts, Chinese wine, timber, old iron, coal, fish, and salt. The chief outward cargoes were sugar, flour, kerosene, cotton yarn, and salt-fish.

During the year steps were taken, in the interests of shipping, to improve the lights along the bund at Port Edward.

Shipping dues show a satisfactory increase, having amounted to $31,972.40, as compared with $25,056.16 during the previous year.

EDUCATION.

The average attendance at the Government School was 78 as compared with 75 during the previous year.

In the Church of England Mission School the number of pupils was 49, in the Protestant Mission School 40 boarders and 6 day-boarders, in the St. Joseph Catholic Mission School at Port Edward 20, and 12 boys were also taught at two schools in the country. The school for girls established by the Chinese Anti-footbinding Society had an attendance of 15.

Ten scholarships were awarded after a competitive examination from the funds provided by voluntary taxation of the theatrical entertainments held throughout the Territory.

JUDICIAL.

The number of cases heard by the Magistrates of the Southern and Northern Districts amounted to 686 as compared with 852 in 1914. Of these cases 433 were police and criminal cases, and 253 civil actions. The fines inflicted amounted to $4,680.54. Two civil actions were re-heard by the High Court, and in both cases the decisions of the Magistrate were upheld. Five criminal cases were tried by the High Court, the most serious being the trial of a Chinaman implicated in a case of armed burglary and murder which came before the High Court for trial in 1914.

Gambling cases have again been numerous. There were in all 54 cases, in which 342 persons were convicted.

Only four cases of drunkenness and two of kidnapping came before the Courts during the year.

The inhabitants of the Territory have, on the whole, maintained their well deserved reputation for orderliness and good behaviour.

GAOL.

The number of prisoners during the year was 160 as compared with 135 during 1914. Of the total of 160, 153 were males and 7 females. The daily average was about 30, a very small number for a population consisting of 150,000 people.

The health of the prisoners was very good and their behaviour was, on the whole, exemplary. They were, as usual, engaged on the performance of useful work on the Island.

LIGHTHOUSES.

Engineer Lieutenant W. H. Edwards superintended the lighthouses during the year and under his superintendence everything has worked satisfactorily.

AFFORESTATION.

On the Island 1,000 acacia trees and 219,500 fir saplings were planted on the hill sides and the slopes of the roads, and 228,000 fir seedlings were bedded. The Island, with the exception of the golf links, is now covered with fir trees, by which its appearance has been much improved. On the mainland, 2,849 acacia trees, 14,800 willow slips, 24,776 fir trees were planted and 42,000 fir seedlings were bedded. 8,500 acacia trees and 4,000 fir trees were distributed among the villagers. There is no regular afforestation staff and such work as has been done has been carried out by Chinese coolies under the immediate supervision of the Inspectors of Police and especially under Inspector Whittaker, who deserves great credit for the energy he has displayed and the knowledge he has acquired since he joined the service of this Government in December 1902.

OPIUM.

The number of smokers licensed on medical grounds was 38, as compared with 27 in 1914, the average age of the licensees being 62·5, as compared with 62 in 1913.

The number of convictions under the Ordinance prohibiting the smoking and importation of opium was 59, as compared with 68 in 1914.

HOSPITALS.

In the hospital at Port Edward 7848 out patients and 266 in-patients were treated, making a total of 8,074, as compared with 6,770 in 1914 and 2,407 in 1907.

The total number of attendances was 14,751, as compared with 12,661 in 1914 and 5,194 in 1907.

The number of operations performed was 356, in comparison with 335 in 1914 and 15 in 1907.

In the hospital at Wênch'uant'ang 3825 new cases were seen whilst the total attendances were 5017, as compared with 3,923 new cases and 4,844 attendances in 1914. There were 48 cases treated as in-patients and 24 cases were attended at their own homes, as compared with 47 and 32 in 1914.

In November the new hospital on the Island was opened and is a great improvement on the former building.

During the year 4,530 vaccinations were performed, as compared with 6,077 in 1914.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The health of the Territory was very satisfactory. There were no cases of infectious disease reported except one case of paratyphoid from which a visitor suffered, and one case of measles. One case of leprosy occurred which was received by Dr. Fowler into his Leper Home at Hsiao Kan. This Government is indebted to him for having received this patient and to Dr. Wassel, of the American Church Mission, who happened to be paying a visit to Weihaiwei, for having kindly escorted the patient to the Leper Home.

POSTAL.

The number of mails despatched by the Post Office by steamers and by couriers to Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, and Hongkong was 692, composed of 2,058 registered articles and parcels, in addition to ordinary correspondence, as compared with 704 mails, composed of 2,492 registered articles, parcels, and correspondence in 1914.

The number of mails received from Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin and Hongkong was 873, made up of 1,260 registered articles and parcels besides ordinary correspondence as compared with 897 mails, and 2,812 registered articles, parcels, and correspondence in the previous year.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

The number of mails despatched in closed bags for London *via* Siberia was 191 containing 11,078 letters, 347 post-cards, and 539 registered articles and the number of letters received by the Siberian route was 10,514, of post cards 317, and registered articles 209.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The highest barometrical reading obtained was 30·872 inches, in April, and the lowest recorded was 29·210, in July. The average monthly range was ·780 inches.

The highest temperature was 99°, in July, and the lowest 7°, in January.

Rain or snow fell on 65 days, the total fall for the year being 17·66 inches, as compared with 47·70 inches in 1914, the highest in sixteen years. The three wettest months were May, June, and July, with 1·48 inch, 3·80 inches and 5·59 inches, respectively. The average rainfall in fifteen years up to the end of 1913 was 28·88 inches.

The records kept at Wênch'uant'ang, situated about thirteen miles off Port Edward, show that rain or snow fell on 84 days, the total fall for the year being 20·29 inches, and that the highest temperature was 96°, in July, and the lowest, 16°, in January and February.

GENERAL.

The Territory is showing signs of increasing prosperity, as evidenced by the gradual growth of its revenue, which during the financial year 1915–16 was the highest on record, and there seems every likelihood of its soon becoming self-supporting and independent of a grant-in-aid from Imperial Funds.

J. H. Stewart Lockhart,

Commissioner.

Government House, Weihaiwei,

11th May, 1916.

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The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
851	Sierra Leone	1914
852	Grenada	1914–1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914–1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914–1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914–1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914–1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914–1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	"
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914–1915
874	British Guiana	"
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914–1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	"
878	Nigeria	1914
879	Cayman Islands	1914–1915
880	St. Lucia	"
881	East Africa Protectorate	"
882	Imperial Institute	1914
883	Nyasaland	1914–1915
884	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
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80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
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83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
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85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement

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A SKETCH MAP will be found in the Report for 1914: [Cd. 7622–36].

No. 924.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for **1915** see No **885.**)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Port Edward,
Weihaiwei,
15th May, 1917.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward the accompanying Report on the Territory of Weihaiwei for the year 1916.

I have, &c.,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

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REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1916.

STAFF.

Sir F. S. A. Bourne, Judge of the High Court, retired on pension, and Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, was appointed to succeed him, whilst Mr. A. G. Mossop, barrister-at-law, was appointed to the post of Crown Advocate. Mr. F. G. Crudge, Financial Assistant and Inspector of Police, resigned his appointments after ten and a half years of very good service, and Mr. P. D. Crawley, Inspector of Police, was appointed to be Financial Assistant. The medical department suffered a severe loss by the death of Mr. Ma, who had proved himself a very efficient medical assistant and who was highly esteemed by both Europeans and Chinese.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $126,909.00 as compared with $115,662.00 during the previous year, showing an increase of $11,247.00. This is the largest revenue hitherto collected.

The expenditure during the year was $139,299.00 as compared with $156,697.00 during the previous year, showing a decrease of $17,398.00.

There was no grant-in-aid from Imperial funds, savings from the previous financial year, together with the increase in revenue and decrease in expenditure, having made it possible to dispense with a grant for the first time since 1898, when this Territory was leased from China.

PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of any importance were carried out during the year. The erection of a pier at Wu K'ou, the centre of the Chinese business quarter, has been approved. Tenders are being invited and it is hoped that the pier will be completed this year. Its cost, which has been estimated at $40,000, will be defrayed by an extra levy of fifty per cent. on shipping dues, to which the mercantile community readily consented.

POLICE.

The behaviour of the police was very good and their health excellent.

FIRE BRIGADE.

Practices of the volunteer fire brigade were held at regular intervals throughout the year and were well attended. It had to deal with one fire only during the year, which was speedily extinguished without doing much damage.

TRADE.

Trade during the year was on the whole satisfactory. The total number of imports by steamers amounted to 128,202 packages as compared with 177.164 packages in 1915. This decrease is mainly due to the falling off in the import by steamers of foreign flour, which in 1913 was 88,634 bags, whilst last year it amounted to 405 bags only. The reason for this great decrease is the present price of flour, about $4.50 a bag, which has forced the Chinese to use native milled flour. The amount of this flour imported during 1916 was 39,132 bags, weighing 38 catties (50 lbs.) a bag. This quantity falls far short of the amount of foreign flour formerly imported by steamer, but the difference is mainly due to the absence of His Majesty's Fleet.

The imports of kerosene oil for the last three years were as follows:—

	1914.	1915.	1916.
Standard oil	41,200	37,200	10,674 units.*
Asiatic Petroleum Company	2,300	4,600	4,250 „
Japanese	—	—	1,200 „

Of the above, only 6,975 units entered the port by steamer, the remainder having been conveyed by junk from Chefoo. The decrease in the import of oil is due to the high price of American and Asiatic oil, which has compelled poorer people to use bean oil, and also to stocks in hand from last year. The Japanese oil was brought from Dalny and as it was much cheaper than the other foreign oils, it was at first bought readily by the Chinese, but, as it was found to give a poor light and smoked badly, its popularity did not last long and towards the end of the year unsold stocks were returned to Dalny.

The import of sugar, 44,046 bags, showed an increase of about one hundred per cent. as compared with 1913.

There was an import of 11,368 bales of cotton yarn and of 29,050 bean cakes.

Steamer exports in 1916 amounted to 418,766 packages as compared with 479,468 packages in 1915. The decrease is due to the falling off in the ground-nut trade, the figures for which during 1915 and last year were as follows:—

	1915.	1916.
Ground-nut seeds ..	247,372 piculs	173,934 piculs.†
Ground-nuts	10,214 „	2,890 „
Ground-nut oil ..	25,519 „	33,298 „

The decrease is accounted for by fewer steamers than last year having been available and by the depreciation during the latter part of the year of the dollar in Hong Kong, with which Colony the ground-nut trade is carried on, which involved a loss in exchange on remittances to Weihaiwei.

121,636 bags (48,661 piculs) of salt were exported during the year, the greater part of which went to Hong Kong and the remainder to Vladivostock.

The trade in salt fish and prawns was not so good as in the previous year.

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* 1 Unit = 8 gallons.

† 1 Picul = 133 lbs.

SHIPPING.

The total number of steamers which called here during the year, exclusive of those which merely put into the harbour for temporary shelter, was 601, with a net tonnage of 515,678 tons, as compared with 668 steamers, with a net tonnage of 596,334 tons, in 1915. As regards the nationalities of the steamers, the principal were as follows:—

British, 1915, 433; 1916, 392; Japanese, 1915, 85; 1916, 13; and Chinese, 1915, 139; 1916, 189.

The decrease in the number of British steamers is accounted for by the sale by the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company of one of its steamers which was for many years on the regular run between Shanghai and Tientsin and made Weihaiwei a port of call. . Demand for cargo-space at other ports willing to offer higher freights is the reason for the decrease in the number of Japanese steamers, but Chinese steamers of smaller carrying capacity helped to fill the void.

3,503 junks entered and cleared as against 3,466 in 1915 and 2,351 in 1914. The marked increase in the junk traffic shown in 1915 has been maintained and is due in the main to the vigilance of the shipping due collector and the water police and to the energy of the local merchants in attracting to Weihaiwei junk imports which form re-exports to Hong Kong by steamer.

The principal inward cargoes by steamer were sugar, cotton-yarn, piece-goods, bean-cakes, paper, kerosene oil, and indigo; chief outward cargoes were ground-nut kernels, ground-nut oil, salt, eggs and salt fish.

By junk the principal inward cargoes were ground-nut kernels, oil and salt (all for re-export) Chinese wine, coal, bean-cake, grains and flour (Chinese milled); the chief outward cargoes were sugar, kerosene, cotton-yarn, and salt-fish.

Shipping dues amounted to $30,526.63 as compared with $31,707.30 during 1915. The slight decrease is due to fewer steamers and a falling off in imports of kerosene, cotton-yarn, flour, and piece-goods.

EDUCATION.

71 pupils attended the Government School as compared with 78 last year. A special paper on hygiene was set and the marks obtained were very good; the first three boys attained 97 per cent.

The number of pupils in the Church of England Mission School was 14 day boys and 14 boarders; in the St. Joseph's Catholic Mission School, 24; in the Girls' School established by the Anti-footbinding Society, 15; in the Mission School for Girls at Port Edward, managed by Miss Gresham and Miss Rout, there were 43 boarders and 15 day girls; and in their day school in the City of Weihaiwei, there were 47 pupils.

There was a competition among all schools in the Territory for ten scholarships, the funds for which were provided by voluntary taxation of Chinese theatrical entertainments, and a special examination in hygiene, which was also open to all schools. There were 69 competitors in the scholarship examination, and 81 in the examination in hygiene, for which three prizes were given.

JUDICIAL.

Two civil cases and seven criminal cases were heard by the High Court. The number of cases heard by the two magistrates amounted to 872, as compared with 686 in 1915 and 852 in 1914. Of these cases, 475 were police and criminal cases and 397 civil cases. The fines inflicted amounted to $6,078.96 as compared with $4,543.49 the previous year.

Cases of serious crime were rare. Gambling cases were not so numerous as last year, though the number of persons convicted was larger. The cases amounted to 43, as compared with 54 the previous year, and the persons convicted to 430, as compared with 342 in 1915.

There were only five cases of drunkenness and one of attempted kidnapping.

A rearrangement and redistribution of the duties and functions of the District Officers were made towards the end of the year. Those officers, who are the magistrates of the Territory and who were formerly entitled District Officers of the Northern and Southern Divisions of the Territory, are now styled Senior and Junior District Officer. All civil cases are now heard at Port Edward in the Court of the Senior District Officer, who was formerly District Officer of the Southern Division with his Court at Wênch'uant'ang, and all criminal cases are brought before the Junior District Officer, who was formerly District Officer of the Northern Division. He holds his Court at Port Edward, whilst the Court at Wênch'uant'ang has been closed.

GAOL.

The number of prisoners was 148, as compared with 160 during 1915, of whom 140 were males and 8 females. The daily average was 25 out of a population of 150,000.

The health of the prisoners was excellent and their behaviour very good. They were employed in the repairing of roads, the making of drains, the planting of trees, and other useful work.

LIGHTHOUSES.

The working of the two lighthouses has been satisfactory and the keepers have discharged their duties in an efficient manner under the superintendence of Engineer-Lieutenant W. H. Edwards, R.N.

One of the keepers, who had served this Government faithfully since 1898, died and the vacancy caused by his death was filled by the promotion of a junior keeper.

AFFORESTATION.

On the Island 250,000 fir saplings were planted on the hillsides, and 225,000 fir seedlings were bedded. 850 willows and 500 acacias were also planted and 6,000 one year old acacias bedded.

The fir trees on the Island were attacked by caterpillars, and women and children were engaged to collect them and their cocoons, with a view to abate the pest. Caterpillars weighing in all 11,135 catties* and 115,843 cocoons were collected.

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* 1 Catty = 1⅓ lb.

On the mainland, 15,480 firs, 8,040 acacias, 818 willows, 956 flowering shrubs were planted, whilst 19,120 firs, 24,775 acacias, and 1,175 flowering shrubs were distributed among the villages. 25,000 fir seedlings, 1,180 acacias and a fair quantity of flowering shrubs and willows were bedded.

OPIUM.

The number of smokers certified by the Government medical officers to be smokers whose life or health would be endangered by a sudden cessation of the use of opium was 36, as compared with 38 in 1915, the average age of the licensees being 60, as compared with 62·5 the previous year.

The number of convictions under the Ordinance prohibiting the importation and smoking of opium was 63, as compared with 59 in 1915.

HOSPITALS.

In the hospital at Port Edward there were 7,799 out-patients and 192 in-patients, as compared with 7,848 and 226 in 1915.

The total attendances were 16,028, as compared with 14,751 during the previous year.

The number of operations performed was 329, as compared with 356 in 1915.

In the hospital at Wench'uant'ang 3,332 new cases were seen and the total attendances were 4,447 as compared with 3,825 and 5,017 in 1915.

In the hospital on the Island there were 2,596 out-patients and 22 in-patients. The total attendances were 6,625 and 86 operations were performed. During the year 5,339 persons were vaccinated as compared with 4,530 in 1915.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The health of the Territory was excellent.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The highest barometrical reading obtained was 30·856 in November and the lowest 29·230 in October. The average monthly range was ·696.

The highest temperature was 96° in June and the lowest 12° in December. Rain or snow fell on 69 days, the total fall for the year being 23·48 inches in comparison with 17·66 in 1915 and 47·70 in 1914. The three wettest months were August, June, and September, with 6·96 inches, 4·60 inches, and 2·61 inches respectively.

The average rainfall in sixteen years up to the end of 1916 was 29·43 inches.

The highest fall was 47·70 inches in 1914 and the lowest 15·76 inches in 1900.

POSTAL.

The number of mails despatched by the Post Office by steamers and by couriers to Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, and Hong Kong was 675, composed of 1,777 registered articles and parcels, in addition to unregistered correspondence, as compared with 692 mails, composed of 2,058 registered articles, parcels, and correspondence in 1915.

The number of mails received from Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, and Hong Kong was 966, comprising 2,953 registered articles and parcels, besides ordinary correspondence, as compared with 873 mails, made up of 1,260 registered articles, parcels, and unregistered correspondence in the previous year.

Siberian Mails.

The number of mails despatched in closed bags for London, via Siberia, was 164, containing 10,103 letters, 277 post-cards and 577 registered articles, and the number of letters received by the Siberian route was 8,221, of post-cards 269, and registered articles 163.

The average time in transit was 28 days; the shortest 21 days, and the longest 70 days.

The British courier service was discontinued on the 31st of March, and the Chinese Postal Administration undertook provisionally to carry the British mails between Weihaiwei and Chefoo.

GENERAL.

A Japanese Training Squadron, which was under the command of Admiral Iwamura and which consisted of H.I.J.M. ships "Tokiwa" (Captain Taniguchi) and "Yakumo" (Captain Saito), visited Weihaiwei from the 20th to the 23rd of December.

A labour scheme, for the recruitment of Chinese labourers to work in Europe and elsewhere, which was inaugurated in October last, has given employment to a large number of the inhabitants of the Territory and has afforded many an opportunity of earning good wages. The depôt for the housing of the labourers was generously placed at the disposal of the Government by the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association, Limited, of Johannesburg, South Africa.

The year was a good one for the people of the Territory. The harvests were so excellent that the purchase of imported grain was unnecessary. There was little serious crime, the inhabitants being as well behaved and industrious as usual, and there were no administrative problems of exceptional difficulty.

J. H. Stewart Lockhart,

Commissioner.

Government House,
Port Edward, Weihaiwei.
15th May, 1917.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
889	Turks and Caicos Islands	1915
890	Gambia	"
891	Trinidad and Tobago	"
892	Hong Kong	"
893	Ashanti	"
894	Gold Coast	"
895	Malta	1915–1916
896	St. Helena	1915
897	Seychelles	"
898	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1915–1916
899	Gibraltar	1915
900	Bahamas	1915–1916
901	Swaziland	"
902	Somaliland	"
903	Cyprus	"
904	Ceylon	1915
905	Straits Settlements	"
906	Grenada	1915–1916
907	Falkland Islands	1915
908	Bermuda	"
909	Jamaica	1915–1916
910	British Guiana	1915
911	Basutoland	1915–1916
912	Barbados	"
913	Leeward Islands	"
914	Uganda	"
915	British Honduras	1915
916	Mauritius	"
917	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
918	St. Lucia	1915–1916
919	Nyasaland	"
920	Nigeria	1915
921	East Africa Protectorate	1915–1916
922	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
923	Hong Kong	1916

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement

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WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1917.

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No. 965.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1916 see No. 924.)

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1917.*

FINANCIAL.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $142,877, as compared with $126,909 during the previous year, showing an increase of $15,968. This is the largest revenue hitherto collected.

The expenditure during the year was $175,652, as compared with $139,299 during the previous year, showing an increase of $36,353.

The revenue derived from Wu K'ou pier dues and the expenditure on account of Wu K'ou pier are included in the figures quoted above for the financial year 1917–18.

The actual revenue and expenditure on account of the Wu K'ou pier during the year are as follows:—

Revenue.	Expenditure.
$13,878.	$25,418.

The credit balance of the Wu K'ou pier account on the 1st April, 1917, was $8,968; and the on 31st March, 1918, there was a debit balance of $2,572.

PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of any importance were undertaken, with the exception of the Wu K'ou pier. References to the negotiations which led to this undertaking will be found in the Annual Reports for 1915 (p. 4) and 1916 (p. 4). It was hoped that the pier would be completed before the end of the year under review, but this was prevented by adverse climatic conditions, the unforeseen necessity of lengthening some of the piles, and to other unavoidable causes. It is not now anticipated that the pier will be opened before the summer of 1918. There is every reason to believe that the construction of this much-needed work will be highly beneficial to the local junk-trade.

The telephone system was reorganised, and the Exchange was for the first time established in the Government Offices. Telephonic communication is still limited, however, to the Island of Liukung, and the town of Port Edward, and an extension of the system is much needed. A new submarine cable was laid between the island and mainland.

Roads were maintained in fair condition, but no extensions were feasible. Considerable damage was done to bridges and road surfaces by an unusually heavy rainfall during the summer and early autumn.

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* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914: [Cd. 7622–36].

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POLICE.

The police-force at present consists of four inspectors, twelve non-commissioned officers, eight prison warders, and eighty-five constables. All these, with the exception of the inspectors, are Chinese, and some are ex-soldiers of the Chinese Regiment, which was disbanded in 1906. An additional body of Chinese special constables was enrolled for duty at the temporary depôt established by the War Office for the accommodation of the labourers engaged by the British Government for non-military war-work in Europe. A reference to this interesting and successful scheme will be found on page 9 of the Annual Report for 1916.

Besides the police-stations on the Island and at Port Edward, there are six sub-stations in outlying villages, at each of which six or seven Chinese constables are resident.

The behaviour of the Force as a whole has been remarkably good, but the lack of adequate European supervision is beginning to have some regretttable results. Before the end of 1916 it was found necessary, owing to the inadequacy of the administrative staff, to close the Senior District Officer's headquarters in the Southern Division, and that officer, who is now stationed at Port Edward, has but scanty opportunities of keeping in touch with the country districts. Even the Police Inspectors, who have many duties to perform wholly unconnected with police work, can do no more than pay hurried and infrequent visits to the sub-stations.

FIRE BRIGADES.

There are volunteer fire-brigades on the Island and mainland, and fire-drills are held with fair frequency, with satisfactory results. As the town of Port Edward is rapidly extending, the lack of adequate means for controlling fires is beginning to be severely felt, and it is very desirable that the town should be supplied with a fire-engine.

TRADE.

The total imports by steamers amounted to 215,162 packages, as compared with 128,202 packages in 1916. The increase in steamer-imports during 1917 must be attributed mainly to temporary conditions connected with the war, and especially to the demand for goods of various kinds created by the operations of the War Office Recruiting Agency. There was a considerable falling off in the import of cotton yarn, due to increase in prices and enhanced freights.

Exports by steamer amounted to 333,199 packages, as compared with 418,766 packages in 1916 and 479,468 in 1915. The decrease noticeable in 1917 is largely attributable to lack of tonnage and to other conditions arising directly or indirectly out of the war.

Junk imports comprised 435,501 packages and 214,672 cubic feet of timber. The principal items among imports, besides timber, were ground-nut products, grain, flour, bean-cake, kerosene oil, salt, and Chinese wine. Exports consisted of 92,515 packages, consisting mainly of sugar, old iron, grain fish, bean-cake, and paper.

SHIPPING.

In the early part of the year, great difficulty was experienced in obtaining steamer tonnage to take away exports from the Territory. This was due to the requisition of British steamers by Government and the consequent reduction of the number of steamers available for the China coast trade. Freight rates advanced considerably. The British steamer companies continued to provide regular tonnage between Weihaiwei and Hongkong at rates of freight much below what could be obtained in the open market, but they are looking to the future to compensate them for the concessions they are making now. With this object in view, Messrs. Butterfield and Swire have inaugurated the system of deferred rebates, whereby shippers pay a higher rate of freight at the time of shipment but obtain a deferred rebate provided they confine their support to specified British companies in the future.

The total number of ships of all nationalities which visited Weihaiwei during the year, exclusive of those seeking shelter, was 636, with a total nett tonnage of 652,839, as compared with 601 steamers with a total of 515,678 tons in 1916.

The increase in tonnage is due to the visits of large vessels belonging to the Canadian Pacific and other lines, which called at Weihaiwei in order to embark Chinese labourers recruited by the War Office, and for other purposes connected with the War.

The number of steamers which visited Weihaiwei during 1917 in connection with the regular trade of the port was below that of 1916.

With regard to junk shipping, the following table reveals a considerable decrease :—

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
Junks in and out ..	2,351	3,466	3,503	2,563

The decrease is attributable to a variety of causes : (1) A very marked falling off in imports of bean-cake from Manchuria. The local beancrop for 1916 was exceptionally good, consequently the farmers of Weihaiwei did not depend upon outside sources, as they usually do, for obtaining the supplies necessary for fertilising and other purposes. (2) The local trade in ground-nut products failed, for various reasons, to compete successfully with that of Tsingtau, which diverted a good deal of junk-shipping to that port. (3) A shortage of junks, owing to the great demand for junk shipping on the Yangtse and elsewhere to take the place of steamers which had been requisitioned by Government. (4) The local harvests of 1916 were good, consequently there was a reduced demand for imported grain during 1917.

Shipping dues amounted to $28,093.57, as compared with $30,526.63 in 1916.

EDUCATION.

Lack of financial resources has hitherto compelled the Government to restrict its educational efforts to very modest dimensions. No more than $1,422 was provided in the 1917 Estimates for all educational purposes; and all that can be done with so small a sum as this is to maintain a school in Port Edward at which 70 or 80 sons of poor parents receive gratuitous instruction in Chinese and English subjects from a staff of three Chinese masters. Certain reforms are about to be introduced which should considerably increase the efficiency of this school, but until a larger sum of money is available for educational purposes it will be impossible to make much progress.

Most of the large villages maintain small schools at which between ten and twenty per cent. of the boys receive an elementary Chinese education, mainly of the old-fashioned type. No supervision is exercised by Government over these schools, though a the pupils are allowed to compete for prizes or small scholarships which are awarded after an examination held under Government auspices once a year. The money expended in these prizes is provided by the people of the Territory out of a fund created by a voluntary levy on theatrical performances.

The following schools are supported and managed by missionary agencies:—

(1) *The Anglo-Chinese School,* conducted by the Church of England Mission. The average number of scholars in 1917 was 40, of whom 15 were boarders. The teaching of English is a special feature of this school.

(2) *The St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Mission School,* the average attendance at which was 22.

(3) *The Anti-footbinding Society's School for Girls.* As the name implies, this school provides an education for girls who have been emancipated from the objectionable practice of footbinding. It is supported by voluntary subscriptions collected among Chinese residents. 16 girls attended this school during 1917.

(4) *Girls' Mission School.* This school is managed by two lady missionaries connected with the sect of Plymouth Brothers, who have carried on evangelistic work in this Territory for many years. The average number of boarders during 1917 was 35, that of day-pupils 24. This school is situated in Port Edward. The Mission also maintains a branch establishment of the same kind within the walled city of Weihaiwei, and there the average attendance was 34.

The Weihaiwei School.

By far the most successful and prominent educational establishment in Weihaiwei is the boarding-school for European boys which was founded and is still conducted by Mr. H. L. Beer, L.R.C.P. This school was first opened in an adapted Chinese house in January 1901, with four pupils. The need for better premises soon became apparent, and a site on a cliff by the sea about a mile from Port Edward, was purchased in 1903. The present school house, with dormitories for about 40 boarders, was built partly with the aid of a debenture loan subscribed by British subjects in Shanghai, and was ready for occupation early in 1904. The loan was subsequently repaid.

The school is primarily for the sons of British parents and its pupils come from places as far apart as Mukden and Canton, Kobe and Chungking. The excellent climate, the absence of a large floating population of coolies, and the consequent freedom from epidemics and diseases common to the Treaty Ports, and the fact that the Territory is under British rule, all combine to render Weihaiwei peculiarly favourable for the purposes of the education of European children, and the school has been a success from its earliest days.

At the end of 1917 the school contained 45 boarders, and available sleeping accommodation will all be taken up by the 50 pupils entered for 1918. There are also a number of day-boys.

The school is mainly preparatory, and the majority of its pupils pass on to schools in Britain—many with distinct credit. Others have entered business firms in the East and are for the most part doing well. An indication of the increasing interest of British subjects in education as a factor in the advance of British interests is the recent offer of the British Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, of prizes of the value of £35 per annum to encourage pupils of the school in the study of Chinese. The school derives no support of any kind from Government.

It may be fairly claimed for the Weihaiwei school that it is "doing its bit" in the great war. Four of its former masters and some 40 to 50 of its old boys have joined His Majesty's forces, and it is known that at least nine of these have laid down their lives for their King and country.

JUDICIAL AND MAGISTERIAL.

Civil Suits. Practically all jurisdiction in civil suits is now in the hands of the Senior District Officer, who exercises the delegated powers of the High Court. It is but very rarely that the Judge of the High Court (who resides in Shanghai, where he holds the more onerous post of Crown Advocate) is called upon to exercise his functions in civil jurisdiction in Weihaiwei. No cases were heard by him in 1917. The number of suits heard and decided by the Senior District Officer was 215. This does not include numerous cases which were dealt with by him extra-judicially, or which were settled by compromise on lines suggested by him.

Criminal and Police Cases were dealt with by the Junior District Officer. These were 320 in number. Only three cases were of sufficient gravity to necessitate trial before the Judge of the High Court. These were cases of assault causing grievous bodily harm, manslaughter, and forgery at Common Law. Convictions were obtained in the first and third of these cases.

To facilitate and expedite the work of dealing with petty police cases occurring within the War Office Labour Depôt, the Government conferred magisterial powers upon Mr. G. S. Moss, assistant to the War Office representative. The cases dealt with by Mr. Moss, of which there were about 200, are not included in the foregoing statistics.

GAOL.

The number of prisoners in gaol on the 1st January, 1917, was 31. The total number sentenced during the year was 127, as compared with 148 sentenced during the preceding year. A few prisoners are serving their sentences in Hong Kong.

LIGHTHOUSES.

The two lighthouses in the leased Territory were periodically inspected by Engineer-Lieutenant W. H. Edwards, R.N., whose reports call for no comment.

AFFORESTATION.

A moderate amount of planting took place on the mainland, but large numbers of young trees (acacias and others) died during the long-continued drought which preceded the unusually heavy summer rainfall. The villagers, as usual, were encouraged to plant trees, and over 36,000 seedlings (acacias and firs) were distributed among them. This system has not proved successful, and experience shows that all planting should be done under direct Government supervision. The present staff, however, is inadequate to exercise such supervision.

On the Island, 200,000 firs were planted and about 150,000 seedlings bedded; but of these only about one-half survived. Willows, tamarisks, and acacias were also planted. Great destruction among these trees is wrought by caterpillars, and until some means is found of exterminating these pests it is to be feared that the plantations will not thrive.

OPIUM.

Opium smoking in the Territory is forbidden under legal penalties. The only persons who are allowed to consume the drug in any form are those who have been given licences to do so after examination by a Government medical officer. At the end of the year under review, there were 46 licenced smokers.

In 1917 the number of cases brought before the Police Magistrate for breaches of the Opium Ordinance was 26. During 1916 the number of similar cases was 60. The decrease does not imply that offences against the Ordinance are diminishing in number. The facilities for smuggling opium into the Territory, and for illicit consumption of the drug, are unlimited, whereas the police force is very small. There is not the least doubt that the number of opium smokers is much larger than the number of licence holders would indicate, and that a very large proportion of offences against the law goes undetected and unpunished.

HOSPITALS.

In the hospital at Port Edward, 7,572 out-patients and 253 in-patients were treated, as compared with 7,799 and 192 in 1916. The total attendances were 18,371, as compared with 16,028 in 1916. The number of operations performed was 258, as compared with 329 in the previous year.

In the new hospital at Wen-ch'uan-t'ang (formerly the headquarters of the Senior District Officer in the Southern Division of the Territory), 2,749 new cases were treated, and the total number of attendances was 4,715. In 1916 the corresponding figures were 3,332 and 4,447. There were 67 in-patients, as compared with 29 in 1916.

At the Island Hospital there were 5,193 attendances, as compared with 6,225 in 1916. The decrease in the number of patients is due to the dwindling of the population. The Island has long ceased to be the commercial centre of the Territory, and the majority of the inhabitants have migrated to the mainland.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

There were very few cases of epidemic disease in the Territory, which maintains its reputation as one of the healthiest districts on the coast of China. A considerable number of cases of dysentery occurred among both Europeans and Chinese; and although it is true that some of these cases were among non-residents who had been attacked by the disease before their arrival in Weihaiwei, there is reason to believe that the outbreak is to some extent traceable to unsatisfactory sanitary conditions both on the mainland and on the Island. Steps are being taken to remedy these, though it is probable that a considerable expenditure must be incurred if the conditions complained of are to be properly rectified. Towards the end of the year a Medical Committee was appointed to consider and report upon the sanitary requirements of the Island. It has been found by experience that under existing conditions it is impossible to maintain an effective control over the methods by which Chinese cultivators fertilise their fields, and it was strongly advised by the Committee that all cultivation of crops on the Island should be prohibited by Government. As all the lands on the Island belonged to the British Government by right of purchase, and all cultivators held their fields on yearly tenancies terminable by Government at will, no great difficulties were involved in carrying out the Committee's recommendation.

I am at present drawing up a scheme for the introduction into the Island of market-gardening and fruit-culture on a fairly large scale. It is proposed to lease garden-lots to approved tenants on very stringent conditions, whereby the Government sanitary authorities will be enabled to exercise strict control over the methods of cultivation and thereby ensure that the local market will be provided with regular and ample supplies of sound fruit and vegetables. Those who know how readily disease is conveyed in China through the medium of vegetable produce grown and retailed under insanitary conditions, will realise the enormous benefit that the proper working of the proposed scheme will confer upon residents in Weihaiwei.

It was feared that the opening of the War Office Labour Depôt would be detrimental to the health of the Territory, especially as it was known that the very advantageous terms offered by the British Government would attract large numbers of underfed coolies from those districts of Chili which, as a result of the great floods, were stricken by both famine and disease. It is satisfactory to report, however, that the health statistics of the Territory seem to have been in no way affected by the influx of labourers. Much credit for this is due to the energy and zeal of the Depôt authorities, who successfully isolated all cases of contagious disease within the limits of the Depôt itself.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The highest barometrical reading obtained was 30·66 in January and the lowest 29·15 in February. The highest temperature recorded was 95° F. in June, the lowest 8° F. in January. Rain or snow fell on 73 days, the fall for the year being 33·28 inches as compared with 23·48 inches in 1916. The three wettest months were July, August, and September, with 10·62, 9·00, and 8·19 inches respectively. The average rainfall for seventeen years has been 28·38 inches; the highest being 47·7 inches in 1914, the lowest 15·76 inches in 1900.

POSTAL.

The mails despatched by the Postal Agency by steamers and couriers to Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, and Hongkong consisted of 791 bags and covers containing 3,313 registered articles and 426 parcels, in addition to unregistered correspondence and 238 closed bags in transit. In 1916, the corresponding figures were 675 bags, 1,777 registered articles and parcels. The very considerable increase in the number of registered articles despatched is mainly attributable to the establishment of the War Office Labour Depôt. The increase in postal business necessitated a temporary enlargement of the staff

12 covers containing 3 registered articles and 36 other articles were sent to Tsingtau by direct steamers.

27 bags containing 7 registered articles, 235 letters, and 18 bags in transit were sent to Vancouver, B.C.

The mails received from Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, and Hong Kong consisted of 1,198 bags and covers, 1,893 registered articles, 1,725 parcels, and 39 closed bags in transit.

The number of mails despatched in closed bags for London via Siberia was 102, containing 344 registered articles, 4,591 unregistered letters, 63 postcards, and 8 closed bags.

Mails for London via Siberia were despatched on 136 days and were received on 63 days, bringing 206 registered letters, 6,490 ordinary letters, 138 postcards, and 48 closed bags. The time occupied in transit varied between 27 days and 95 days; but on one occasion a Siberian mail took 144 days to accomplish the journey from London to Weihaiwei. Towards the latter part of the year, very little use was made of the Siberian route, and the Canadian route became the most popular.

The total receipts from sales of stamps, etc., were as follows:—

		Increase or Decrease.	
Postage stamps ..	$4,925.61	Inc.	$2,117.90
Imperial Postal Notes	1,172.17	Dec.	334.18
Local Postal Notes ..	8,406.30	Inc.	5,285.15
Total ..	$14,504.08	Inc.	$7068.87

GENERAL.

There has been a great increase of building activity in Port Edward during the past year, and this affords one of many indications that the Chinese merchants of the Territory have faith in its commercial possibilities. Most of the new shops and warehouses are being erected on sites easily accessible from the new Wuk'ou pier; and the steady rise in the market value of such sites shows that the merchants are alive to the advantages which will acrue to the local shipping trade from the erection of that pier.

The growth of Port Edward tends to accentuate various evils connected with the sanitary conditions of the town and the inadequate water-supply; and in the interests of public health it is to be hoped that effect will be given to various recommendations recently made by the Government's medical advisers.

The rearrangement and redistribution of the duties and functions of the two District Officers, to which reference was made on page 7 of the Annual Report for 1916, has been maintained. A reversion to the old system, whereby a district officer resided in the Southern Division of the Territory and kept the Government in close touch with the village communities, is very advisable in the interests of efficient administration. It is also highly desirable that the police force should be increased and at least three new sub-stations created. The means of communication throughout the Territory are inadequate. Roads should be extended and improved and made suitable for motor-traffic, and telephonic communication should be established between Port Edward and the various police stations.

The vast majority of the inhabitants of Port Edward are as yet but very slightly affected by the reforming activities of "Young China." Even the queue, which is now rarely seen in the Treaty Ports and other commercial and industrial centres, is still cherished by multitudes of the people of this Territory; and the conservatism which insists upon the retention of this so-called badge of servitude to an extinct dynasty is powerful in moulding the thoughts and habits of the people in more important respects than the arrangement of the hair. In some ways the old-fashioned customs of this district are harmless and even advantageous, but it is disappointing to find that the people insist upon retaining the bad with the good and cling to old ways which are demonstrably harmful. One of these evil customs is female foot-binding. A sensibly-worded exhortation against this practice (which is rapidly dying out among the better classes in the more progressive parts of China) was published in the autumn of 1917 by the Pekin Government and circulated throughout China. I took the opportunity to embody the salient points of this document in a public notification to the people of Weihaiwei. The immediate effect is not likely to be great, but it has given encouragement to those "advanced" members of the Chinese community who are sincerely desirous of abolishing a practice which is productive of nothing but harm. (Previous references to the subject of foot-binding will be found on page 9 of the Annual Report for 1913.)

The relations between the Government of the Territory and the neighbouring Chinese district officials continue to be most friendly and harmonious. It is a remarkable fact that during the twenty years of the British administration of Weihaiwei, no serious friction or difference of opinion has arisen between this Government and the Chinese Provincial authorities, although the occasions which might have produced such friction have been manifold. This says much for the tact and courtesy of the Chinese officials who have held appointments in the magistracies adjoining the leased Territory. It seems fair to assume that the Provincial Government recognises and appreciates the scrupulous care always taken by the British authorities to show due respect for Chinese rights and interests.

There were no important changes in staff during the year under review. In November, the Commissioner (Sir J. H. Stewart Lockhart, K.C.M.G., LL.D.) left the Territory on six months' leave of absence, and in accordance with the terms of a Dormant Commission I assumed the administration of the Government on the 26th of that month. I am much indebted to the English and Chinese members of the Government service for their loyal and zealous co-operation with me during the period of my administration. Special recognition is due in this respect to Mr. E. A. Sly, Acting Senior District Officer, and to Mr. P. D. Crawley, Financial Assistant.

R. F. JOHNSTON,

Officer Administering the Government.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
931	Gibraltar	1916
932	Bahamas	1916–1917
933	St. Helena	1916
934	Ceylon	"
935	Malta	1916–1917
936	Gambia	1916
937	British Guiana	"
938	Falkland Islands	"
939	Sierra Leone	"
940	Straits Settlements	"
941	Cyprus	1916–1917
942	Grenada	"
943	Jamaica	"
944	Somaliland	"
945	Swaziland	"
946	Nigeria	1916
947	Basutoland	1916–1917
948	Gold Coast	1916
949	Ashanti	"
950	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1916–1917
951	Barbados	"
952	Leeward Islands	"
953	St. Vincent	"
954	Uganda	"
955	Nyasaland	"
956	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1916
957	British Honduras	"
958	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1916–1917
959	Cayman Islands	"
960	Bermuda	1916
961	Mauritius	"
962	Ashanti	1917
963	Falkland Islands	"
964	Seychelles	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 999.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1918.

(For Report for 1917 see No. 965.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1919.

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No. 999.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For Report for 1917 see No. 965.)

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1918.*

GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

The territory of Weihaiwei, which lies in latitude 37·30 N., longitude 122·10 E., is situated in the Chinese Province of Shantung, on the north-eastern coast of the Shantung Peninsula. The total area, which is about 285 square miles, comprises the Island of Liu Kung and a belt of land ten English miles wide, with a coast line seventy-two miles in length, and a population, according to the census of 1911, of 147,177, spread among 320 villages.

The territory was leased to Great Britain by China by a Convention signed at Peking, on the 1st July, 1898, "in order to provide Great Britain with a suitable naval harbour in North China and for the better protection of British commerce in the neighbouring seas."

The Bay of Weihaiwei is six miles broad and from three to four wide, and there is easy access to it from the eastern and western entrances which are respectively two-and-a-quarter miles and two-thirds of a mile wide, and which are lighted by two lighthouses. The harbour of Weihaiwei is one of the best on the coast of China and affords excellent anchorage for vessels of all sizes.†

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The general condition of the Territory during 1918 was satisfactory, and this is all the more gratifying when the disturbed condition of the Province of Shantung and of the districts bordering on this Territory are borne in mind. In them brigandage and robbery were rife, whilst the kidnapping and holding up to ransom of wealthy Chinese were as frequent as they were lucrative. A person held to ransom is termed *Pang P'iao*, which may be interpreted as a note that has not yet been cashed. Failure of its conversion into hard cash results in the unfortunate victim being put to death and becoming a *Ssû P'iao*—a note that is "dead," because it could not be cashed. A very serious case of holding up to ransom occurred about ten miles from the borders of Weihaiwei in the Jung Ch'êng District. An armed gang of robbers carried off six persons and held them to ransom, and it was only after a sum of $50,000 had been paid that they were released. No arrest has been made in this case and it does not seem likely that any of those guilty will be brought to justice.

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* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914: [Cd. 7622–33].

† Full and interesting particulars regarding the geography, history and people of Weihaiwei will be found in "Lion and Dragon in Northern China," by R. F. Johnston.

(C578) Vt. 1/155. 1,000 & 90. 9.19. B. & F. Ltd. G.11.

The presence of gangs of robbers in the immediate neighbourhood of this Territory rendered it necessary to take steps to provide against inroads being made into it. A small detachment of the 18th Infantry Regiment of the Indian Army, under the command of Captain A. C. M. Binny, arrived here from Tientsin in November, and their presence, together with a slight strengthening of the Police force, has undoubtedly created a sense of security among the Chinese. This is evidenced by the fact that wealthy families from Chinese territory have sought asylum within the leased territory.

It is only fair, however, to state that the Chinese of this Territory have during the year well maintained their reputation for good behaviour, as is instanced by the fact that the total number of prisoners admitted to gaol during the year amounted to 86, as compared with 127 in 1917 and 148 in 1916, the daily average being 27·8. The total number of civil cases heard during 1918 was 187, as compared with 215 during 1917, and of criminal cases 388, as compared with 320 in the previous year.

Since 1909 the importation, sale and smoking of opium and any other hypnotic have been prohibited, and only those who can produce a medical certificate from the Government Medical Officer, stating that opium is necessary for them, are granted a licence to smoke it, the issue of opium to such certified persons being made by the Government. The total number of licences issued during 1918 was 40 and the average age 61, as compared with 46 licensees, average age 62, in 1917.

The news of the armistice was received with great joy by the residents of this Territory. A new pier was opened and named Victory Pier to commemorate the victory of the Allies and America.

It was with great pleasure that H.M.S. "Cadmus," under the command of Commander Hilliard, was welcomed here towards the end of the year. None of His Majesty's ships had been seen here since H.M.S. "Triumph" and H.M.S. "Usk" left in 1914 after having taken part in the attack on Tsingtao. Now that the war is at an end, it is hoped that His Majesty's ships will continue to make use of Weihaiwei as in previous years.

Weihaiwei fully maintained its reputation as a health resort during the summer months. All the accommodation available in the mainland and island hotels and in the bungalows owned by the Weihaiwei Land and Building Company was fully occupied, and the number of visitors was quite as large as in previous years, if not larger. The health of both residents and visitors during the warm weather was excellent. But there were two outbreaks of epidemic disease during the spring and towards the end of the year. The first was an outbreak in spring of typhus in the depot in which Chinese labourers, recruited for service in Europe, were housed: the second was an epidemic of influenza which prevailed throughout the Territory during October and November. Typhus was declared to be present in the depot on the 19th February and lasted till the 9th April. There were 298 cases and 18 deaths, all Chinese with the exception of the late Dr. Baxter, Medical Officer in charge of the depot. The disease first appeared in coolies who arrived from Tientsin. As the total number of inmates of the Depot when the outbreak occurred was 2,519, great credit is due to the Canadian medical officers who were here at the time for the very able manner in which they combated the disease and for the efficiency of their administration, which prevented its spread. The late Dr. Baxter contracted the disease in the execution of his duty and his death was deeply regretted by all who knew him, as he was held in very high esteem. The epidemic of influenza was universal throughout the Territory in a very virulent form. In one family of eight six died of the disease, and nine hundred deaths were reported. But it is certain that many deaths occurred which were never reported. It is not possible to give accurate mortality statistics, as registration of deaths is not compulsory in the Territory.

Great improvements are being effected on the Island of Liu Kung with a view to rendering it a health resort in every way satisfactory for His Majesty's Navy. Old buildings have been condemned and pulled down, whilst steps are being taken to erect suitable structures to take their place. Two officers of the Public Works Department of Hong Kong, Mr. Wright and Mr. Henderson, visited the island and made recommendations regarding new buildings and a water supply. Their recommendations are at present under consideration. In the meantime the naval authorities have erected new barracks for the Royal Marine Guard which is stationed on the island and are constructing a model village for the housing of the Chinese whom they employ on the island.

Building activity in Port Edward, which was referred to in the Annual Report for 1917, continued during the year under review, and many new buildings were erected in accordance with the building regulations, which are a great improvement on the native buildings which were formerly erected and which cannot be regarded as satisfactory from a sanitary point of view. They are situated in very narrow streets and many of them have thatched roofs. The only means of dealing effectively with them would be to pull them down and have that portion of Port Edward in which they are situated laid out on an approved plan. The initial cost of such a scheme would be large, but the sale of improved building sites should result in recouping a considerable part of the original outlay, whilst the amenities of the neighbourhood and its sanitary condition would be greatly improved.

RECRUITING OF CHINESE LABOUR FOR WORK IN FRANCE.

The War Office Labour Depot for recruiting Chinese labourers to work in France, which was established here in October 1916, continued its labours in Weihaiwei until the middle of last year, when it transferred its headquarters to Tsingtao. During the period of its existence here no fewer than 44,448 Chinese labourers were sent to Europe, one-third of whom were natives of the Province of Shantung and two-thirds natives of the Province of Chihli. The number of recruits from the Territory of Weihaiwei was not large and their reluctance to incur the risk of proceeding abroad, even at very favourable rates of pay, seems to show that they regarded themselves as well enough off at home.

The rate of pay for an ordinary labourer was a bonus of $20 on leaving for Europe: $10 a month separation pay for his family from the date of sailing to the date of repatriation: one franc a day from arrival in, to departure from, Europe: and food, clothing, housing and medical attendance for the whole period of service. Non-commissioned officers, interpreters, mechanics and other ratings received higher pay in proportion to their positions.

The transfer of the Depot to Tsingtao was due to the fact that at Weihaiwei during the winter months steamer communication with the north and south is very fitful and that there is no railway communication with the interior of China such as exists at Tsingtao. The absence of railway communication is undoubtedly a great hindrance to the material development of the Territory.

TRADE.

When the Territory was leased in 1898, there was no trade worthy of the name in existence. The only imports were Government stores and supplies for the Navy, and there were no exports. Since that year a trade has been created and has gradually increased, though it has been slow in its development, and the want of railway communication has resulted in trade going to other ports, such as Tsingtao, which might have made Weihaiwei its centre if it had possessed ready communication with the interior of China. Such development of trade as has taken place may be attributed almost entirely to the fact that Weihaiwei is a duty free port, there being no Customs dues of any kind, the only charge on goods being a due which amounts to not more than a half of one per cent. *ad valorem*. These dues, which are styled shipping or wharfage dues, are levied on all goods discharged from or landed on Government piers and wharves, and in 1918 amounted to a total of $32,932.82, as compared with $28,093.57 in 1917.

Trade during 1918 was, on the whole, satisfactory, though not quite so good as in the previous year. Owing to the want of a properly equipped staff for the purpose of keeping detailed and exact statistics of the trade of the port, it is not possible to give an absolutely accurate account of the value of that trade; but Mr. E. E. Clark, whose firm of Messrs. Lavers & Clark has been established here since 1898, has kindly complied a Return (see Appendix A) giving the approximate value of the total trade and of the principal imports and exports for the year 1918. From this Return it will be seen that the total value of the imports by junk and steamer was £788,038, and of the exports £572,936, making the total value of the trade to be £1,360,974.

SHIPPING.

The total number of steamers of all nationalities which visited Weihaiwei during the year was 519, with a total nett tonnage of 442,366, as compared with 636 steamers, with a total tonnage of 652,839, in 1917. The decrease in tonnage is due to only one steamer having been required during the year for embarking Chinese labourers recruited by the War Office.

The total number of junks entering and clearing during the year was 2,483, as compared with 2,563 in 1917, the reduction in number being due to trade not being so prosperous as in the previous year.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $150,723, which is the largest since the Territory was leased in 1898, when it amounted to not more than $20,000. The chief sources of revenue are a Chinese Land Tax, yielding about $12,000 : a Road Tax, of the same amount : Shipping Dues, which last year, as already stated, amounted to $32,932.82 : a Chinese Wine Monopoly which brings in about $11,000 : and Registration of Land Transfers and Rents of Government Property, which each amount to about $12,000. As the population is about 150,000, the total revenue collected does not amount to more than one dollar a head of the population, which is, therefore, lightly taxed. But the inhabitants of the Territory, who are mainly farmers with small holdings, are not rich and have a strong aversion from anything in the shape of new or direct taxation.

Expenditure in 1918 amounted to $184,600, as compared with $175,652 in 1917, or $33,877 in excess of revenue. The Territory is still dependent on a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds.

CLIMATE.*

The climate of Weihaiwei is an exceedingly pleasant and healthy one. According to the Chinese there is during winter a period of six weeks of what is called the "great cold," flanked on either side by six weeks of "little cold," and during summer a period of six weeks of "great heat," flanked on either side by six weeks of "little heat."

These terms very accurately describe the climate in a normal year. The "great cold" is at times severe, the temperature falling in the north-west blizzards as low as 10°F., but the sun is usually bright and warm and the atmosphere is dry. The "little colds" are fine, dry, bracing weather.

The "great heat" is almost a misnomer, as the heat is never excessive at night, it being rare that the temperature prevents sleep. The months of July, August and September are, as a rule, the rainy months, but between showers the climate permits of any outdoor sports. The months of April, May and June, the latter part of September, October and November, are simply glorified English summer weather, when the sun shines with a persistency unknown in England, tempered by cool breezes and deliciously invigorating nights. The dryness of the atmosphere is not excessive and the southerly breezes which prevail, although occasionally strong and not invigorating, are not very trying.

It may be said without exaggeration that for nine months out of the year the climate of Weihaiwei is ideal and that during the other three months the climate, if a little trying, is certainly healthy.

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* For full and interesting details regarding the Meteorology of Weihaiwei see "Notes on a Meteorological Journal at Weihaiwei, kept by Commander A. E. House, 1910 to 1916." By C. E. P. Brooks, M.Sc., F.R.Met.Soc., F.G.S. (Published in the Quarterly Journal of the Royal Meteorological Society, Vol. XLV. No. 189. January, 1919.)

To give exact figures for 1918, the highest barometer reading obtained was 30·612 in January and December and the lowest recorded was 29·412 in March, the average monthly range being ·588. The highest and lowest temperatures were 92° in July and 16° in January. Rain or snow fell on 44 days, the total fall being 15·53 inches, in comparison with 33·28 inches in 1917. The three wettest months were May, June and August, with 3·23 inches, 2·80 inches and 2·56 inches respectively. The average rainfall for 18 years was 26·96 inches, the highest being 47·70 inches in 1914 and the lowest that of last year.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The main roads in the Territory cover about 40 miles. Connecting the various villages there are also roads which are maintained by the villagers and towards the upkeep of which the Government grants a subsidy. The traffic on the roads mainly consists of wheeled vehicles, chiefly carts, and pack animals, generally mules and donkeys. The roads are sufficient for such traffic as now makes use of them, but are not suitable for motor traffic. To be suitable for motors, they would have to be widened and improved, which would involve a large outlay. There is at present no demand on the part of the Chinese of Weihaiwei for motors, but some visitors have desired to use them whilst others have expressed their delight at being able to enjoy the peace and quiet of a place free from the rush of motors. If a real demand for motors should arise, the roads would have to be improved, and if Weihaiwei should progress materially, it seems pretty certain that there would be such a demand. But to permit the general use of motors under present conditions would constitute a danger and a nuisance to those who make use of the present roads, which on market days are thronged by Chinese.

TELEPHONES.

There is a telephone service at Port Edward, on the mainland, which is connected with the island, but there is no telephone communication with the interior of the Territory, which is much required. It is hoped, however, that it may be soon possible to make arrangements for supplying this deficiency and thereby placing Port Edward and the various Police Stations throughout the Territory in closer communication than exists at present.

TELEGRAPHS.

The Eastern Extension Telegraph Company has an office on the island and is connected by cable with a branch office on the mainland at Port Edward. The only direct external communication is by cable to the Treaty Port of Chefoo, forty miles distant, whence connection is maintained with Peking and other places in China, and through Shanghai with all parts of the world.

There is in the City of Weihaiwei, which, though in the heart of the leased territory, is under the jurisdiction of China, an office of the Chinese Telegraph Administration, through which communication with all telegraph stations in China and in all foreign countries is possible. The land line of that Administration from Chefoo runs for about 12 miles through the western portion of this Territory before it reaches the City of Weihaiwei, and an application has been received from the Chinese Government for permission to extend the line from that City through the southern portion of the Territory so that that Government may extend its telegraphic communication to the districts lying to the south of this Territory.

POSTAL.

The British Post Office of this Territory is under the Post Office of Hong Kong, which superintends it on behalf of the Imperial Government, the Government of Weihaiwei not being responsible for its management or for the expenditure on account of it, which is in excess of its revenue, chiefly owing to its share of the cost for the transmission of mails by sea to and from Europe and other countries or by rail by way of Siberia. This arrangement has been found the most satisfactory in view of this Territory not being self-supporting, but dependent on a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds.

The head office of the Post Office is on the mainland at Port Edward, and there is a branch office on the island.

The total expenditure on account of the staff, etc., during 1918 was $4,440, whilst the receipts during the same year for the sale of postage stamps and postal orders amounted to $9,275.33, which shows a decrease on the previous year of $5,228.75, chiefly due to the transfer to Tsingtao of the War Office Labour Depot. The stamps used are those of the Hong Kong Post Office. There is also a branch of the Chinese Post Office in the City of Weihaiwei. The working between it and the British Post Office is carried on in a very satisfactory manner, and it is especially convenient for those who have correspondents in the interior of China. The Government of Weihaiwei has for many years had a contract with the firm of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire for the conveyance of mails to and from Shanghai. Before the outbreak of war nearly all letters to and from Europe were sent by way of Siberia and took about 14 days in transit, whilst parcels and newspapers were forwarded by way of Suez. During the war mails were of course much delayed, but matters are gradually improving and letters are beginning to arrive more regularly and quickly. The time in transit of the few mails sent to Weihaiwie from London by the Siberian route in 1918 varied from 84 days to 42 days, making an average of 56 days 4 hours, whilst of the mails sent by way of Canada and the United States, one took 318 days and one 37 days, the average of the others being 65 days.

APPENDIX A.

Return of Value of Trade and of principal Imports and Exports during 1918.

(Prepared by Mr. E. E. Clark, of Messrs. Lavers & Clark, Weihaiwei.)

Taking exchange at 3*s*.4*d*. to the dollar, or $6.00 to £1, the following is an approximately correct return of the value of the trade of Weihaiwei during the year 1918:—

Imports by Steamer	$2,907,105	£484,517
Imports by Junk	1,821,124	303,521
Total Imports	$4,728,229	£788,038
Exports by Steamer	$2,600,203	£433,367
Exports by Junk	837,415	139,569
Total Exports .. .	$3,427,618	£572,936
Total Trade	$8,165,847	£1,360,974

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

	By Steamer.	By Junk.
Bean Cake	—	£33,211
Chinese Wine	—	11,551
Coal	—	14,480
Cotton Yarn	£180,700	—
Fish, salt or dried	—	11,389
Flour	—	14,754
Grain in bulk	—	18,070
Groundnut Kernels	—	122,380
Groundnut Oil	—	21,627
Gunny Bags	15,500	—
Kerosene Oil	15,946	—
Matches	9,929	—
Piece Goods	109,966	—
Sugar	50,336	—
Timber	—	9,046
Treasure	24,666	—
	£407,043	£256,508

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

	By Steamer.	By Junk.
Coolie Outfits	£20,527	—
Cotton Yarn	41,687	£42,553
Fish, salt or dried	6,789	11,609
Groundnut Kernels	262,568	—
Groundnut Oil	26,926	—
Old Iron	—	23,650
Salt	11,343	—
Sugar	—	40,156
Treasure	36,000	—
	£405,840	£117,968

Of the exports by steamer about £316,000, or 73 per cent., went to Hong Kong, and a portion of the imports by steamer came from Hong Kong.

Of the remainder of the trade a small percentage was with Japan and Vladivostock by steamer, and the balance with ports in China.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
969	Turks and Caicos Islands	1917
970	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
971	Ceylon	"
972	Hong Kong	"
973	Zanzibar	"
974	St. Helena	"
975	Malta	1917–1918
976	British Guiana	1917
977	St. Vincent	1917–1918
978	Bahamas	"
979	Gambia	1917
980	Jamaica	1917–1918
981	Gibraltar	1917
982	Bermuda	"
983	Swaziland	1917–1918
984	Trinidad	1917
985	Mauritius	"
986	Cyprus	1917–1918
987	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
988	East Africa Protectorate	1916–1917
989	Barbados	1917–1918
990	Sierra Leone	1917
991	Straits Settlements	"
992	Leeward Islands	1917–1918
993	Uganda	"
994	British Honduras	1917
995	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1917–1918
996	Nyasaland	"
997	Basutoland	"
998	Gold Coast	1917

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1040.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1919.

(For Report for 1918 see No. 999.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1920.

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No. 1040.

WEIHAIWEI.

(For report for 1918 see No. 999.)

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1919.*

FINANCE.

Revenue.—The revenue collected during the year amounted to $176,450, as compared with $150,723 during the previous year, and exceeds the original estimate by $30,146. This is the largest amount collected in any one year since this Territory came under British administration.

Expenditure.—The expenditure for the year amounted to $207,141, as compared with $184,600 in 1918, and is $22,858 in excess of the original estimate. This excess is more than accounted for by the fact that a sum of $21,239 was paid as war allowances to officials, both British and Chinese, and that $3,021 were expended for the purchase of new rifles and equipment for the Police Force of this Territory.

Grant-in-Aid.—The Territory is still dependent on a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Failure of crops.—The general condition of the Territory during the year 1919 cannot be regarded as satisfactory as in previous years. Owing to drought the crops were almost an entire failure. Notwithstanding the failure of the crops and the consequent shortage of food, the behaviour of the inhabitants of the Territory was excellent and there was no crime of a serious nature within the Territory, though the daily average in gaol was 37·16, as compared with 27·8 in 1918.

Disturbed condition in districts beyond the border.—But the districts bordering on the Territory were in a disturbed condition. A considerable number of burglaries and robberies occurred in those districts during the year. Owing to the introduction of a new tax on salt, several of the newly established collecting stations were burnt down and some of the officials connected with them were murdered. This happened in the Laiyang District and caused much unrest in the districts adjoining this Territory. In June a gang of pirates, numbering 40, having landed on the coast beyond the boundary of this Territory, committed various robberies, captured a Chinese police post, and carried off 20 persons of wealth whom they held to ransom. The original sum demanded was $100,000 but was subsequently reduced to $50,000. The gang finally captured a junk and made their escape, although 500 troops and police and two gunboats were said to be trying to capture them. The success of this gang gave rise to persistent rumours that similar gangs to the number of 3,000 were about to try their luck in the same neighbourhood, and this created a great scare among the people and caused a number of wealthy people to seek refuge within the borders of the leased territory where they are still residing.

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* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914 [Cd. 7622–36].

Assistance rendered by detachment of 18th Infantry Regiment.—The detachment of the 18th Infantry Regiment of the Indian Army, under the command of Captain A. C. M. Binny, made periodical tours round the Territory and its border, and its presence has undoubtedly given confidence to the inhabitants of the Territory. This detachment is about to return to India and will be much missed in Weihaiwei where it has made itself very popular and much respected among all classes of the community by its excellent behaviour, which has been faultless during its stay here.

Changes in Staff.—Mr. R. F. Johnston, C.B.E., Senior District Officer, having been seconded to take up the appointment of tutor to the ex-Emperor of China, Mr. D. B. Walker, of H.M. Consular Service, who had been performing the duties of Junior District Officer, was appointed to succeed Mr. Johnston and Captain Binny was appointed to discharge the duties of Junior District Officer in addition to his military duties. Mr. Walker went home on leave and was succeeded as Senior District Officer by Mr. A. P. Blunt of H.M. Consular Service in March. The seconding of Mr. Johnston was a great loss to the service. He had served uninterruptedly in Weihaiwei since 1904 and had proved himself an officer of exceptional administrative capacity, his intimate knowledge of the Chinese, their customs, and their language having won for him a high place in the esteem of the native population with which his duties brought him into such intimate contact. It was with great pleasure that, in accordance with instructions from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, I publicly presented to him the insignia of a Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire which had been conferred upon him by His Majesty. The departure of Mr. Walker was also much regretted, for during his term of office he had shown himself to be a very capable and popular officer.

Civil suits.—The duties of the Senior District Officer are mainly confined to the hearing of civil suits in trying which he exercises the delegated powers of the High Court. During 1919 the number of civil cases amounted to 151, as against 187 in 1918 and 215 in 1917. This reduction is, in the opinion of Mr. Blunt, due to the bad harvests of the year and to the departure of Mr. Johnston, whose knowledge of the Chinese language and local customs was well-known to litigants and induced them to lay their disputes before him rather than to resort to the time-honoured Chinese practice of inviting friends "to speak peace."

Police cases.—Criminal and Police cases are dealt with by the Junior District Officer. There were 515 cases, as compared with 504 in 1918, the number of persons convicted being 947 last year and 504 in 1918. Fines amounting to a total of $6,869 were imposed, as compared with $4,005 the previous year.

(695) Wt. 32796/354. 1,250. 10.20. B.&F., Ltd., G.11/14.

Cases tried by High Court.—Only four cases, one civil and three criminal, were of sufficient gravity to necessitate trial by the High Court. The civil case was tried by Mr. Wilkinson, the Judge; the criminal cases, in each of which the accused was convicted, were tried by the Commissioner, sitting as Judge of the High Court in the absence of the Judge, who resides in Shanghai and who visits Weihaiwei when his presence is necessary.

Usefulness of new pier.—Victory Pier, which was opened at the end of 1918 and the cost of which was met by an increase in shipping dues, has more than justified the expectations of its usefulness by its having been used for shipping and landing the largest proportion of the cargoes exported and imported. It has, in fact, proved to be such a success that a scheme has been recommended for the building of a sea-wall and the making of a storage ground in its immediate neighbourhood so as to facilitate the sorting of cargo on arrival and its storage whilst awaiting distribution or shipment. The estimated cost of the scheme is $40,000, which it is proposed to meet, as in the case of Victory Pier, by an increase in shipping dues.

Visits of H.M. Ships.—Vice Admiral Sir Frederick C. T. Tudor, K.C.M.G., C.B., Naval Commander-in-Chief on the China Station, flew his flag on shore on the island of Liu Kung during part of last year, towards the end of which he was relieved by his successor, Vice-Admiral Sir Alexander L. Duff, K.C.B., who visited Weihaiwei in November in his flagship H.M.S. "Hawkins." Visits were also paid by H.M.S. "Carlisle," H.M.S. "Cadmus" and H.M.S. "Kent," the last which the two last-named ships—which are to be sold—will ever pay to these waters, where they have been so well-known and so popular for many years.

Health.—The general health conditions of the European residents and visitors during the summer were very good, the only cases of any importance requiring treatment being ten cases of dysentery, only three of which were serious.

Cholera outbreak.—Among the Chinese population there was a sharp outbreak of cholera during August and September. The outbreak was not peculiar to this Territory, as cholera was widespread throughout the north of China and extended as far as the Island of Formosa, where the disease was especially virulent. In a territory with an area of 285 square miles and a population of 150,000 inhabiting more than 300 villages, the situation was not an easy one to deal with effectively, but Dr. Muat, the Senior Medical Officer, with the small medical and sanitary staff under his control, did all that was possible under the circumstances and deserves great credit for the skill and tact with which he dealt with a very trying situation. The treatment adopted was that of saline transfusion; and of the 232 cases treated the rate of mortality was 22·8 per cent. The greater number of these cases arrived in hospital in a moribund condition, many being clothed in their burial garments, but still recovered. Three transfusion stations were established and were much appreciated by the Chinese. Jemadar Siddiq Ahmed, Sub-Assistant Surgeon, attached to the detachment of the 1st XVIII Infantry stationed here, rendered Dr. Muat great assistance. His services, which were volunteered, proved of great value and were very much appreciated. The native Chinese Medical

Assistant, Mr. Lu, and the other Chinese attached to the Hospital, worked day and night during the epidemic and deserve special recognition. The medical staff was strengthened by the arrival in December of Dr. J. E. Barnes, M.B., Ch. B., who was appointed to be Junior Medical Officer and a Medical Officer of Health for the Territory of Weihaiwei.

Improvements on Island.—The improvements on the Island of Liu Kung, referred to in the last Annual Report, which are being carried out in order to make the island a health resort in every way satisfactory for His Majesty's Navy, made progress, the erection of the model village for the housing of Chinese employed by the Naval Authorities having been completed. Surgeon-Commander J. R. Muir, R.N., who discharged the duties of Medical Officer of Health on the island in a most efficient manner and who was a strong supporter of the improvements mentioned, left for home and was succeeded as Medical Officer of Health by Surgeon-Commander P. L. Crosbie, R.N.

Delay in the re-laying out of Port Edward.—Want of the necessary funds still prevents the pulling down of old Chinese houses in Port Edward and having the town laid out on an approved plan.

TRADE.

Trade during 1919 was affected adversely by the boycott of Japanese goods throughout China and the refusal of the Chinese in the Territory to have any dealings in, or to handle, goods emanating from Japanese sources. Complaints were made of such refusal, but it was not possible to persuade the Chinese to change their attitude. This resulted in the cessation of exports from, and imports into, Japan and the withdrawal from the trade of this port of Japanese steamers. Up to the end of May, 28 steamers had visited the port, after which date only 3 steamers called to land passengers. The failure of the local crops also had a very bad effect on trade, for it reduced the farmers to great straits and made it difficult for them to purchase even the bare necessities of life.

The chief decrease was that of cotton yarn, which is usually imported from Japan, the quantity being 2,787 bales, valued at $603,850, as compared with 4,170 bales, valued at $1,084,200, in 1918 The want of Japanese cotton yarn was partly made up by the import of raw cotton grown in China.

The chief increase was that of flour, 51,898 bags, valued at $124,555, having been imported, as compared with 606 bags, valued at $1,454, in 1918. Machine-made flour is rapidly increasing in popularity among the Chinese of the Territory, and now that supplies not available during the War can be obtained, it is anticipated that flour will continue to form an important article of import.

Exports by steamer during the year were estimated in value at $2,332,328, as compared with $2,600,203 in 1918. The chief falling-off was in cotton yarn, only 9 bales, valued at $2,340, having been exported, as compared with 962 bales, valued at $250,122 during the previous year.

The largest increase was in the export of salt, which amounted to 434,841 bags, valued at $521,809, as compared with 62,931 bags, valued at $67,058, in 1918. This large increase was due to the flooding of salt works in Japan and the great demand for salt in Japan and at Vladivostock, which made it profitable to ship it to those places notwithstanding high freights; but owing to the cessation of trade with Japan and the absence of Japanese shipping, the export of salt ceased and large stocks have for a long time been awaiting a favourable market.

Imports by junks during the year were estimated in value at $3,101,407, as compared with $1,821,124 last year. The chief increase was in salt, which amounted to 752,441 piculs, valued at $263,354, as compared with 14,696 piculs, valued at $5,192, in 1918. The chief decrease was in bean-cake, 45,063 piculs, valued at $58,582, having been imported, as against 137,427 piculs, valued at $199,266, the previous year. This decrease was due to the failure of the crops, which prevented the farmers from being able to purchase beancake for manuring their fields.

Exports by junk during the year amounted in value to $403,344, as compared with $837,415 in 1918. As the exports by junk largely depend on the imports by steamer, the stoppage of trade with Japan was the chief cause of the falling-off in the junk export trade. As in the case of imports by steamer, the chief decrease was in cotton yarn, only 36 bales, valued at $4,260, having been exported, as compared with 982 bales, valued at $255,318, last year. The export of sugar by junk also fell off, only 9,892 bags, valued at $98,920, having been exported, whereas in 1914 there was an export of 32,125 bags, valued at $321,250.

In Appendix "A" will be found a return giving the value of the total trade, and in Appendix "B" the principal imports and exports, together with their value. The total value of the imports by junk and steamer was £1,074,828 4*s.*: and of the exports £547,134 8*s.*, making the total value of the trade to be £1,621,962 12*s.*, as compared with a total of £1,360,974 in 1918.

SHIPPING.

Weihaiwei was visited during the year by a total of 512 steamers, with a total nett tonnage of 487,526, as compared with 519, with a total nett tonnage of 442,236, in 1918.

The total number of junks entering and clearing during 1919 was 4,535, as compared with 2,483 in the previous year, this increase being mainly due to the large importation of salt.

POSTAL.

The mails despatched were composed of 845 bags and covers containing 2,747 registered articles and 670 parcels, besides ordinary correspondence and 321 closed bags in transit. The mails received were composed of 1,008 bags and covers which contained 1,642 registered articles, 1,147 parcels and 337 bags in transit. The mails received from London, via Chefoo, reached Weihaiwei on an average in 47 days, the shortest time for transmission being 35 days and the longest 64 days. In fact, mails arrive more irregularly and take a longer time in transit than they did during the War. It is not surprising, therefore, that much regret is felt that the Siberian route is closed by which letters used to reach Weihaiwei from London in 14 days.

CLIMATE.

The highest barometric reading obtained was 30·864 in March and the lowest 29·294 in March, the average monthly range being ·723. The highest and lowest temperatures were 95°F. in June and August and 9°F. in February. Rain or snow fell on 54 days, the total collected being 18·17 inches. The three wettest months were July, August, and September with 2·63 inches, 2·56 inches, and 6·22 inches respectively. In 1918 the rainfall was 15·53 inches, the lowest on record, and last year was only 18·17 inches. As a result of this abnormal drought the crops last year were almost a total failure, and it has become necessary to administer famine relief during the present year to about 40,000 persons. At the present moment of writing the long-hoped-for rain has not yet arrived and if it does not come soon the first annual crop will be a failure and the distress in the Territory, which has already been very great, will be accentuated, whilst the difficulty of obtaining funds, in addition to those already liberally subscribed, for the purchase of grain to relieve the famine-stricken will be greatly intensified.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.
Commissioner.

Government House,
Weihaiwei.
4th June 1920.

APPENDIX "A."

Return of Value of Trade.

(Taking Exchange at 4/- to the dollar or $5 to the £.)

	$		£	s.	d.
Imports by Steamers ..	2,272,734	=	454,546	16	0
Imports by Junks	3,101,407	=	2,620,281	8	0
Total Imports	5,374,141	=	1,074,828	4	0
Exports by Steamers ..	2,332,328	=	466,465	12	0
Exports by Junks	403,344	=	80,668	16	0
Total Exports	2,735,672	=	547,134	8	0
Total Trade	8,109,813	=	1,621,962	12	0

APPENDIX "B."

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

	By steamer		By Junk	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		$		$
Bean-cake	—	—	45,063 piculs	58,582
Candles	2,908 cases	10,178	320 cases	1,120
Chinese Wine	1,855 jars	11,130	16,969 jars	101,814
Cigarettes	331 cases	39,730	2 cases	240
Coal	2,084 tons	26,000	1,074 tons	13,960
Cotton Yarn	2,787 bales	603,850	6 bales	720
Cotton, raw	5,306 bales	159,180	468 bales	14,040
Dyes	1,808 tubs	21,696	341 tubs	4,092
Fish, salt and dried	154 bskts.	1,540	5,674 piculs	28,369
Ground-nut kernels	—	—	105,382 bags	843,056
Ground-nut oil	—	—	14,730 tins	66,285
Flour	51,898 bags	124,555	42,315 bags	105,783
Gunny Bags	2,469 bales	123,450	22 bales	1,100
Kerosene Oil	7,463 cases	37,315	10,116 cases	50,580
Matches	2,113 cases	10,565	101 cases	505
Paper	9,247 bales	36,988	18,680 bales	74,720
Piece Goods	1,533 boxes	306,600	58 boxes	2,875
Sasson	—	—	482 cases	14,460
Salt	23 bags	28	752,441 piculs	263,354
Treasure	—	287,970	—	—
Sugar	11,760 bags	117,600	—	—

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

	By Steamer		By Junk	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		$		$
Cotton Yarn	9 bales	2,340	36 bales	4,260
Cotton, raw	—	—	362 bales	10,865
Fish, salt and dried	2,531 bskts.	25,310	13,645 piculs	68,277
Ground-nut kernels	192,257 bags	1,538,056	751 bags	6,008
Ground-nut oil	13,738 tubs	61,821	462 tins	2,079
Old iron	—	290	7,334 piculs	36,672
Paper	—	—	3,972 bales	15,888
Sasson	742 bags	22,260	—	—
Salt	434,841 bags	521,809	1,593 piculs	577
Sugar	—	—	9,892 bags	98,920

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
1008	Nigeria	1917
1009	Turks and Caicos Islands	1918
1010	St. Helena	"
1011	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1012	Ashanti	"
1013	East Africa Protectorate	1917–1918
1014	British Guiana	1918
1015	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1918–1919
1016	Basutoland	"
1017	Falkland Islands	1918
1018	Trinidad	"
1019	Bermuda	"
1020	Swaziland	1917–1918
1021	Somaliland	1918–1919
1022	Gibraltar	1918
1023	Grenada	1918–1919
1024	Jamaica	"
1025	Cyprus	"
1026	British Honduras	1918
1027	British Solomon Islands	1918–1919
1028	Straits Settlements	1918
1029	Gold Coast	"
1030	Nigeria	"
1031	Leeward Islands	1918–1919
1032	Sierra Leone	1918
1033	Bahamas	1918–1919
1034	Gambia	1918
1035	Barbados	1918-1919
1036	Mauritius	1918
1037	St. Vincent	1918–1919
1038	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
1039	St. Helena	1919

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
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82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
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90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies–General	Fishes of the Colonies.

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No. 1097.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For report for 1919 see No. 1040.)

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WEIHAIWEI.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1920.*

FINANCE.

I. REVENUE.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $164,973·39 and the expenditure to $235,445·36, whilst the grant-in-aid from Imperial funds was £20,000, the conversion of which into local currency at various rates of exchange produced $129,596·83. When the Territory came under the Colonial Office in 1901-2, the revenue amounted to about $20,000, the expenditure to $120,000 and the grant-in-aid to £11,250. The revenue is, therefore, more than eight times as much as it was in 1901-2 and the expenditure is not quite double what it was, whilst the grant-in-aid up to 1919-20 has been reduced to an annual average of about £6,000.

II. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Famine.

The chief event during the year was the occurrence of famine in the Territory. For three years the rainfall had been abnormally small and in 1919 the drought was so great that the crops were practically a failure. Early in the year it was discovered that many people in the Territory were without proper food and were living on the cobs of Indian corn, sweet potato runners, and other substitutes for food quite unfit for their proper nourishment. Steps were immediately taken to afford relief to the sufferers. It was found that these consisted of 10,000 destitute in a state of starvation, to whom free issues of grain had to be made, and 30,000 farmers and their families who applied to be supplied with grain on loan, undertaking to repay in October the advances made to them. A Famine Relief Committee, consisting of British and Chinese residents, was appointed, and Financial Purchasing and Distributing Sub-Committees were formed out of the General Committee. Local subscriptions were raised and appeals for assistance were made to the British and Chinese communities of Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin and other places. These appeals met with a most generous response, for

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* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914 [Cd. 7622-36].

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which the whole of the community of Weihaiwei is most grateful, the total subscriptions received amounting to $65,730. Grain was imported from Dalny and was distributed to the destitute under the supervision of Captain Binny, Junior District Officer, assisted by Mr. Jennings, Inspector of Police, from six different centres in the Territory, whilst the grain issued to the farmers on loan was handed over to them at Port Edward. The distribution of grain, free, and on loan, relieved the situation, but it threatened to become still more serious owing to the continued drought, and was a source of the greatest anxiety until the long-hoped-for rain at last arrived in June and enabled the Famine Relief Committee to cease its labours. The excellent work of the members of that Committee and of the officers of this Government in connection with the famine is deserving of the highest praise and well worthy of the appreciation of their services in the relief of distress conveyed to them by Lord Milner when Secretary of State for the Colonies. It is also pleasant to be able to state that the farmers have proved that their word is as good as their bond by having punctually and promptly repaid in full the cost of the grain, amounting to $54,975, which is a large sum for small landholders. In order to mark how highly their good faith is appreciated by the Government, a permanent memorial to perpetuate the memory of their admirable conduct has been erected at Port Edward.

Changes of Staff.

Captain A. C. M. Binny, of the 1/18th Infantry Regiment of the Indian Army, who discharged the duties of Junior District Officer, was relieved by Mr. Hardy Jowett. Captain Binny proved himself a very hard-working and efficient District Officer and his excellent work in connection with the work of Famine Relief is specially deserving of all praise.

Jemadar Siddiq Ahmed, Sub-Assistant Surgeon, I.M.D., whose services in connection with the cholera outbreak were mentioned in the Annual Report for 1919, left in December, and his voluntary services are much missed, especially in the laboratory of the Port Edward Hospital, where he was exceedingly useful.

Mr. L. J. Self was appointed Sanitary Inspector on his arrival from home in July, and his appointment has been followed by a great improvement in the sanitary condition of the native shops and dwellings in Port Edward. The Chinese generally have shown themselves most ready to help the Inspector and have evinced no active obstruction to the sanitary improvements introduced by him.

Naval.

His Majesty's Fleet, under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Alexander Duff, K.C.B., visited the Territory during the summer and remained for several months. Among the ships was a flotilla of submarines, which excited great curiosity among

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the Chinese, who had never before seen this style of craft. Through the courtesy of the Naval Commander-in-Chief, Chinese residents were allowed to visit a submarine and very much appreciated the kindness which enabled them to enjoy this novel experience. This Territory had not enjoyed a visit from His Majesty's Fleet since the outbreak of war in 1914 and its return to these waters was heartily welcomed by the community, on which its presence has such an important influence, both socially and commercially.

Military.

The detachment of the 1/18th Infantry Regiment was relieved in May by a detachment of the 2/55th Coke's Rifles (F.F.), Indian Army, under the command of Captain W. J. Best, and has maintained the reputation for excellent behaviour set by its predecessors. The presence of a military detachment in this Territory is undoubtedly of great assistance in preventing the inroad into this Territory of armed bands who have disturbed the peace of places beyond the borders of this Territory, and so long as the present state of disorder and unrest prevails in China, its retention is most desirable.

Police.

The police stationed at Port Edward and at nine posts in the Territory have worked well in conjunction with the village Headmen, and there has been no serious crime except one case of murder and a serious case of robbery. The robbers were caught by the police and convicted. The murder was a peculiar instance of a man suffering under an intense obsession which took the form of devil possession, to which the Chinese, on account of their superstitious beliefs, regard themselves as liable. The man, whilst suffering under the hallucination that he was possessed by the ghost of a dead uncle, killed his wife, of whom, when he was in a normal condition, he was very fond. He was tried and found guilty but insane. No highway robberies took place inside the Territory, but outside the border, in Chinese territory, there were several periods of terror from lawless marauders.

Civil Suits.

The number of civil cases heard by the Senior District Officer was 142, as against 151 in 1919. It is difficult to assign any cause for the continued reduction in the number of civil cases, which has fallen steadily during the last five years, the figures being as follows:—1916, 397; 1917, 215; 1918, 187; 1919, 151; and 1920, 142. One reason for this diminution may be due to the removal of the Court of the Senior District Officer from Wênch'üant'ang to Port Edward, which is remote from the villages where most of the cases originate, and another reason may be the repeated exhortations made to Headmen to try to settle the disputes in their villages by the time-honoured practice of "speaking peace."

There can be no doubt that there are among the Chinese, as among other races, those possessed of a litigious spirit, but the number of cases brought into Court in this Territory, which has a population of 150,000 people, compares favourably with many other places.

Though the civil suits heard during 1920 may have been comparatively few, there were an unusually large number of important cases. The introduction of the Government Waste Lands Ordinance brought to a head many disputed titles to "common land," five of which were tried by the Senior District Officer and one in the High Court. It is hoped that the decisions given have settled these disputes for all time. Their settlement has at any rate defined the ownership of many hundred acres of land—in most cases pasturage and sandy waste, but in two cases valuable agricultural land—which had been cultivated without any right or payment to Government for many years before this Territory was leased by Great Britain.

Police Cases.

There were 340 cases, as compared with 515 in 1919, the number of persons convicted being 773, as against 947 in 1919. Fines amounting to a total of $4,468 were imposed, the amount in 1919 being $6,869.

Cases tried by High Court.

Eight cases, four civil and four criminal, were tried by the High Court. All the civil cases and two of the criminal cases were tried by the Judge of the High Court, Mr. Wilkinson, and two criminal cases were tried by the Commissioner sitting as Judge of the High Court.

Medical.

The health of the resident and visiting foreign population was excellent, and there was very little sickness of a serious nature. At one time fears were entertained of an outbreak of typhus fever on account of the famine prevailing in this Territory, but the prompt measures taken to relieve the sufferers prevented this catastrophe. The attendances at the hospitals showed appreciable increases, especially at the hospital at Wênch'üant'ang, which had a total attendance of 6,367, and 5,383 new cases, as compared with 3,430 attendances and 2,688 cases in 1919. At the Port Edward hospital there were 9,312 new cases, with a total of 14,500 attendances, as compared with 9,084 new cases and 13,540 attendances in 1919.

A laboratory was started in the Port Edward hospital, and the work done by it included Widal examinations of blood and bacteriological examinations of water, in addition to the usual microscopical examinations of blood, excreta, and sputa.

The annual vaccination campaign commenced in March. The total number of vaccinations was 5,514, 98·26 per cent. of which were successful. The figures in 1919 were 6,016, with a percentage of 93·68 successes.

Education.

An investigation into the Chinese schools in the Territory was made by Mr. Jowett, Junior District Officer. The total number of schools, which are all primary, is 284, with an actual average attendance of 4,669 scholars and with a teaching staff of 307 teachers. Of the total number of scholars only about 100 are girls. The total annual cost of the schools, supported entirely by Chinese, is $15,077. The old pre-republican method of teaching is giving place to more modern methods, and Mr. Jowett, who has had experience of education in other parts of China, is of opinion that the schools in this Territory compare very favourably with those in China proper, although they are not quite up to the standard of the more progressive districts of China. There is a great need for a middle-grade school, to enable scholars from primary schools to complete their education in the Territory, instead of having to go elsewhere for that purpose, and it is hoped that the present Government School may be made a middle-grade school. It is also anticipated that it will be possible to effect considerable improvement in the schools throughout the Territory, both in quantity and quality, by the encouragement of those interested in education and by the establishment of scholarships by private individuals.

III. TRADE.

The boycott of Japanese goods continued during the year, the Chinese in the Territory declining to have any mercantile transactions with the Japanese and refusing to deal in or handle any goods emanating from Japan. Only three Japanese steamers called at the Port, as compared with 31 in 1919. The famine also affected trade adversely. But these adverse influences were fortunately counterbalanced to a great extent by the presence of the Fleet. There was a great decline in the prices of groundnuts and the market for salt was weak.

Imports (Steamers).

The total imports by steamers amounted to 137,524 packages, valued at $2,458,092, as compared with 141,833, valued at $2,272,734, in 1919. Raw cotton showed an increase of about $20,000 and cotton yarns $37,540. Timber, valued at $75,068, was imported, with none in 1919, and cigarettes to the value of $71,280 were imported, as compared with $39,730 in 1919. Coal showed an increase in value of $25,155, and flour a decrease of $22,101. There was great decrease in piece goods, the value of which amounted to $181,600, as compared with $306,600 in the previous year. For the relief of those suffering from famine, grain (kaoliang) was imported to the value of $38,895, none having been imported in 1919. Foreign provisions showed a very large increase, being imported to meet the requirements of the Fleet. The values were $112,880, as compared with $16,960 in 1919, or an increase of $95,920. Foreign wines showed an increase of $19,000.

Exports (Steamers).

Exports by steamers amounted to 487,043 packages, valued at $2,579,612, as compared with 663,137 packages, valued at $2,332,328, in 1919. The chief increases in values were as follows:

	1920.	1919.	*Increase.*
	$	$	$
Salt	913,561 ..	521,809 ..	391,752
Eggs	10,765 ..	1,290 ..	9,475
Fish	68,090 ..	25,310 ..	42,780

Ground-nuts showed a decrease in value of $247,672, ground-nut oil of $16,581, and export of mules $47,610.

Imports (Junks).

Imports by junks amounted to a total of 865,846 packages, valued at $2,083,459, including timber valued at $56,899, as compared with $2,413,587 in 1919, or a decrease of $330,128. (*Note.*—The figures for imported timber in 1919 were, by a clerical error, given as $764,244 instead of $76,424, and the imports by junks were accordingly valued in Appendix " A " of the Annual Report for 1919 at $3,101,407 instead of at $2,413,587. The correct figures for imports by junks in 1919 are given in Appendix " A " to this Report.) Salt is responsible for $196,493 of this decrease, the figures for 1919 and 1920 being $263,384 and $66,891 respectively. Ground-nuts show a decrease of $268,886. Timber imported by junks decreased by $19,526, but owing to the large importation by steamer, which is a new departure in the trade of the Territory, the total value of timber imported in 1920 shows an increase of $55,542. Beancakes showed a good recovery, the total value being $102,170, as compared with $58,581 in 1919. Bean oil increased by 1,133 " baskets," the figures being 2,583 in 1920 and 1,450 in 1919. The price, however, in 1920 was only $10 a " basket," whereas in 1919 it was $18. If the price had been the same in 1920, as in 1919, the increase in the value last year would have been approximately $20,400.

As the figures given above show, the decrease in 1920, as compared with the year 1919, is $330,128. For this decrease two commodities, salt and ground-nuts, account for a decrease of $196,493 and $268,886, making a total of $465,379, or $135,251 (about 30 per cent.) more than the decrease for the year.

Exports (Junks).

The total exports by junks amounted to 94,697 packages, valued at $347,011, as compared with 103,079 packages, valued at $403,344, for 1919, showing a decrease of $56,333. This decrease is accounted for by the falling-off in the following exports:—Iron, $11,600; ground-nuts, $5,834; kerosene, $8,726; and sugar, $36,745.

In Appendix " A " will be found a return, prepared by Mr. Jowett, Junior District Officer, which shows that the total value of the trade of the Territory in 1920 was $7,468,174, and in Appendix " B " is given a return of the principal imports and exports, together with their value. The total value of the imports by junks and steamers was in 1919 $4,686,321 and in 1920 $4,541,551, and of exports $2,735,672 in 1919 and $2,926,623 in 1920, showing last year a decrease in imports of $144,770 and an increase in exports of $190,951, and an increase in the total volume of trade of $46,181.

IV. SHIPPING.

The total number of steamers that called at the port, exclusive of those seeking shelter only on account of stress of weather, was 515, with a tonnage of 480,287, as compared with 512 steamers, with a tonnage of 487,526, in 1919. The nationalities of these steamers were:—British, 350; Chinese, 156; Japanese, 3; Russian, 4; American, 2; total, 515. The total number of junks entering and clearing was 2,874, as compared with 4,535 in 1919 and 2,483 in 1918. The great increase in 1919 was due to an unusually large importation of salt, the reduction in which last year has caused the figures of the junk trade to approximate to those of previous years, when much less salt was imported.

V. POSTAL.

The mails despatched were made up of 703 bags containing 4,471 registered articles, 3,018 parcels other than ordinary correspondence, and 722 closed bags in transit. The mails received were composed of 1,071 bags and covers, which contained 1,847 registered articles, 1,284 parcels, and 580 enclosed bags in transit. The total receipts amounted to $22,896·16, showing a total increase of $14,480·64, as compared with the previous year, which was due to the presence of the Fleet. Residents still regret the closing of the Siberian route, but mails by the sea route arrived somewhat more regularly during 1920 than in the previous year. One mail arrived from London in 41 days, but another took 78 days before it reached this Territory.

VI. CLIMATE.

The highest barometric reading during the year was 30·724 and the lowest 29·604, the former in February and the latter in August, the mean monthly range being ·525. The highest temperature was 95 degrees F., in August, and the lowest 12 degrees F., in February, the mean monthly range being 14 degrees F. Rain or snow fell on 64 days. The rainfall showed an increase of about 10 per cent. compared with that of 1919, being 20·16 in., as compared with 18·17 in. in the previous year, and 15·53 in. in 1918. The rain was so long deferred that at one time it was feared that the spring crops would be a failure, but it fortunately arrived just in time to save them and prevent much distress in the Territory.

Government House,
Weihaiwei,
20th April, 1921.

J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Commissioner

APPENDIX " A."

Return of Value of Trade.

	1920.	1919.
	$	$
Imports by steamers	2,458,092	2,272,734
Imports by junks	2,083,459	2,413,587
Total imports	4,541,551	4,686,321
Exports by steamers	2,579,612	2,332,328
Exports by junks	347,011	403,344
Total exports	2,926,623	2,735,672
Total trade	7,468,174	7,421,993

Net increase of 1920 over 1919 = $46,181.

APPENDIX " B."

Principal Imports.

	By Steamers.		By Junks.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		$		$
Bean-cakes	—	—	78,593 piculs	102,170
Candles	619 cases	2,476	128 cases	448
Chinese Wine	2,149 jars	2,579	20,629 jars	144,403
Cigarettes	594 cases	71,280	10 cases	1,200
Coal	3,935 tons	51,155	1,646 tons	21,399
Cotton Yarn	3,767 bales	640,390	5 bales	850
Cotton, raw	5,967 bales	179,010	394 bales	11,820
Dyes	758 tubs	9,770	213 tubs	2,556
Fish, salt and dried ..	3 baskets	33	13,263 baskets	92,841
Ground-nut Kernels ..	—	—	95,698 bags	574,188
Ground-nut Oil ..	—	—	18,520 tins	55,560
Flour	35,328 bags	102,451	14,277 bags	39,976
Gunny Bags	1,673 bales	83,650	4 bales	200
Kerosene Oil	80 cases	440	19,789 tins	108,840
Matches	2,211 cases	11,055	458 cases	1,374
Paper	9,901 bales	39,604	6,348 bales	25,392
Piece Goods	908 boxes	181,600	119 boxes	23,800
Sasson	—	—	195 cases	5,850
Salt	—	—	267,567 piculs	66,891
Treasure	—	422,370	—	—
Sugar	8,095 bags	121,425	12 bags	180

Principal Exports.

	By Steamers.		By Junks.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		$		$
Cotton Yarn	—	—	40 bales	6,800
Cotton, raw	2 bales	60	480 bales	14,400
Fish, salt and dried ..	6,809 baskets	68,090	10,236 piculs	71,654
Ground-nut Kernels ..	215,064 bags	1,290,384	97 bags	582
Ground-nut Oil ..	15,326 tubs	45,978	2,277 tins	6,831
Old Iron	—	—	5,009 piculs	25,049
Paper	—	—	2,756 bales	11,024
Sasson	916 bags	27,480	—	—
Salt	228,379 bags	913,561	18 piculs	5
Sugar	16 bags	240	4,145 bags	62,175

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

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ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1061	Seychelles	1919–1920
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April–December 1919
1064	Nigeria	"
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919–1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919–1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918–1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919–1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919–1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920–1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920–1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920–1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919–1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918–1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920–1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

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No. 1118.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For report for 1920 see No. 1097.)

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No. 1118.

WEIHAIWEI.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1921.*

I. GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.†

The Territory of Weihaiwei is situated on the North-eastern coast of the Shantung Peninsula, in latitude 37.30 North, longitude 122.10 East, and, previous to its lease to Great Britain, formed a part of the Chinese Province of Shantung. The total area is 288 square miles and it comprises a belt of land on the mainland, 10 miles wide with a coast line of 72 miles, containing the small town of Port Edward, which is the only port and the seat of Government, and some 320 villages, of which four attain to the dignity of small market towns, together with the small Island of Liukung, on which is situated the Royal Naval Dockyard.

2. The Island of Liukung is formed by a backbone of hills rising to 500 ft. The mainland of the Territory—apart from plains of varying depth, fringed either with "salt pans" or sand-dunes along the greater part of the coast—consists of ranges of rocky hills rising to 1,500 ft. in height, intersected by narrow valleys and river beds. The hills, which are terraced for cultivation as far as possible, are otherwise mainly barren rock and sparse grass lands, or are planted with dwarf pine, scrub oak (the food of the Shantung silk worm), or, near Port Edward, with Japanese firs. The valleys are mostly undulating country much broken by gullies and mountain river beds ; the streams are all torrential and do great damage to the valleys and coastal plains with sand and debris from the hills. During three-quarters of the year the stream beds are either dry, or, in a few cases, contain a slender streak of water.

3. The native population, which, according to the census taken this year, numbered 154,416, consists mainly of the orderly, hard working, conservative, independent peasantry of the Shantung Peninsula ; there are also a large number of fishermen and a fairly progressive and increasing mercantile community, almost all natives of the Territory and mostly resident in Port Edward. The foreign population which is almost entirely British at all seasons of the year, consisted at the same census of 246 persons, including the personnel of the Royal Naval Dockyard and

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* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914 [Cd. 7622–36].

† For full and interesting particulars regarding the geography, history and people of Weihaiwei, see "Lion and Dragon in Northern China" by R. F. Johnston, C.B.E. (formerly Senior District Officer, Weihaiwei).

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a detachment of the 2/55th Cokes' Rifles (F.F.). This population is swelled in the summer by a large influx of visitors, which, during the year under review, reached the record figure of 580 adults with 76 children. With a few exceptions the European population is confined to the Island of Liukung and the near neighbourhood of Port Edward, and resides in foreign style houses and bungalows and in hotels, of which there are four.

4. Port Edward is situated on the Bay of Weihaiwei, which is 6 miles broad and from 3 to 4 miles wide. Across the mouth of the Bay lies the Island of Liukung, leaving two entrances 2¼ miles and ⅔ mile wide respectively, which are lit by two lighthouses and give easy access to one of the best harbours on the coast of China, and one which affords excellent anchorage for vessels of all sizes. It may be interesting to note that Port Edward lies, as the crow flies, approximately 40 miles East of the Chinese (Treaty) port of Chefoo and 140 miles North-east of the ex-German port of Tsingtao.

5. The Territory was leased to Great Britain by China under a Convention signed at Peking on 1st July, 1898. During 1898 and 1899 its administration was conducted by the Admiralty and was then virtually confined to the Island of Liukung and the part of the mainland which is now Port Edward. In 1900 the War Office assumed the administration, which in 1901 passed in turn to the Colonial Office.

II. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

6. *Sir J. H. Stewart Lockhart.*—The most noteworthy event of the year was the retirement in April of the Commissioner, Sir. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, K.C.M.G., LL.D. His departure was universally regretted by the inhabitants, both foreign and Chinese, and his popularity with all classes of the Chinese population, which was evidenced by the erection of two " Pei " (commemorative tablets) in his honour and the presentation of numerous addresses and scrolls, two " myriad name " umbrellas, one dress of " myriad name robes " and a bowl of pure water (the symbol of purity of administration), afforded a remarkable testimony to the success of British administration at Weihaiwei, at any rate in the estimation of the vast majority of those governed.

7. *Survey of Period of His Administration.*—Sir James (then Mr.) Lockhart assumed the administration of the Government on 3rd May, 1902, and except for two periods of leave, in 1909 and 1918, and short absences from the Territory, was continuously in charge for very nearly 19 years. It will therefore perhaps be interesting, and not inopportune, to review shortly the history of Weihaiwei, which is mainly that of a one-man administration, and to contrast its present comparative prosperity with the gloomy forecasts of competent observers previous to 1902.

8. The earliest report on the Territory was made in June, 1900. Weihaiwei was described as " a colder Aden," " barren and treeless," with the " soil everywhere full of sand," and

containing no cart roads but only mule tracks. It was reported that there was only one well-to-do family in the Territory, and that its property was mostly outside the boundary; that the population, estimated at 80,000, was over large; that the people were too poor to consume wine or spirits; that there were no exports except salt fish to Formosa, that there were no imports except sugar, tobacco, paper and timber, and that " beyond this there is no trade and no prospect of any." The possible revenue was estimated at £1,500 (say $15,000) from land tax in ordinary years and at £500 from other sources.

9. In 1902 a further report stated that there was little reason to modify the impressions formed in 1900 and which are summarised in paragraph 8 above. During the interval the construction of 23 miles of mud roads had improved or supplemented the mule tracks at a total cost of $39,000. It was estimated that no more than $2,000 would be required for upkeep, as the people were " too poor to use carts." The opinion formed in 1900 as to the maximum possibilities of trade and revenue was reasserted, and it was stated that it was impossible to raise further revenue without undue harshness and at the certain cost of creating serious discontent and disturbances. Nor was any possibility held out of any rise in the price of land except in the neighbourhood of Port Edward. It should be mentioned that in 1900, the total revenue amounted to $4,077, and in 1901, to $21,188 with an expenditure of $126,862. The total volume of export trade was valued at $60,000; no values are given for import trade, but it appears to have been about $500,000. All trade was carried in junks.

10. Such were the prospects of the Territory when Sir James Lockhart assumed charge in 1902, and moreover it possessed two indirect advantages to revenue, which were reduced and disappeared respectively later; it was the summer headquarters of a bigger China Fleet than in later years, and it was the headquarters of the Chinese Regiment, which ceased to exist in 1906. For the most part the contrast between the present and those " prospects " is shown in other sections of this report. It is sufficient in this summary to append a Table (Appendix I) showing Revenue, Expenditure and Grant-in-Aid from 1903-04 to 1916-17 (the last five years are shown in Section III) and to state the following facts. The hills on the Island of Liukung, where in 1902 " the only trees were flag posts," and in the neighbourhood of Port Edward are mostly covered with firs. The value of land in the Territory generally has risen 2–300 per cent., while in Port Edward land, which in 1903 was sold to Europeans at an average of $90 a " mou " (£54 an acre) and in 1912 " sold for as much as $240 an acre " is now assessed for taxation purposes at $250 to $800 a " mou " (£150 to £480 an acre) and higher prices, even among Chinese, are not uncommon. There are no actual beggars; the Chinese mercantile community is prosperous; there are many well-to-do landowners and merchants. Carts are first mentioned in 1909, when they had been known only

a few years; 2,110 cart licences and 61 carriage licences were taken out during the current year as against 1,692 and 38 respectively in 1920.

11. *Changes of Staff.*—Sir James Lockhart left the Territory in H. M. Ship " Cairo," a passage in which had been placed at his disposal by Admiral Sir. A. L. Duff, the Commander-in-Chief, China Station, on 23rd April, and I assumed the administration of the Government on that date. Mr. Hardy Jowett, Junior District Officer became Acting Senior District Officer, and on 11th June, Mr. S. L. Burdett, M.C., of His Majesty's Consular Service in China, temporarily took over the duties of Junior District Officer. Upon his departure at the end of November, his duties were taken over by Captain W. E. Godwin, commanding the detachment of 2/55th Cokes' Rifles (F.F.), stationed at Port Edward, in addition to his military duties. Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Judge of the High Court, proceeded on leave of absence in April. The addition to the staff of another Inspector of Police, Mr. A. G. Gunn, on 1st April, enabled the Inspector detailed for work in the Financial Assistant's Office to confine himself to those duties, which are ample, and also made possible better supervision of police, traffic, shipping and lighting of craft in harbour, which is reflected in the increase of certain classes of criminal convictions (see para. 15) and has resulted in marked improvement.

12. *Visit of the Governor of Hongkong.*—A visit was paid to the Territory by His Excellency Sir R. E. Stubbs, Governor of Hongkong.

13. *Naval.*—(*a*) Weihaiwei was fortunate in enjoying a longer visit than usual from His Majesty's Fleet during the summer, as it was the headquarters of the Fleet almost continuously from 15th May, when Vice-Admiral (now Admiral) Sir A. L. Duff, K.C.B., arrived in His Majesty's Ship " Alacrity," until the end of September. One or more vessels of the China Fleet were here continuously from 19th April, when His Majesty's Ship " Colombo" arrived, until 2nd November, when His Majesty's Ship " Carlisle " left. The importance, both socially and commercially, of visits of His Majesty's Ships requires no emphasis.

The behaviour of the men of the Fleet was, as usual, excellent. Only one single case occurred of exuberant interference with any native and this was dealt with at once by the man's ship's company. It is a record of which any Fleet may be proud.

(*b*) The Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet in the Far East, Admiral Strauss, visited Weihaiwei in his flagship United States Ship " Huron," on 19th and 20th August. The tedium of the winter months was relieved by a visit of the United States Ship " New Orleans " (Captain Owens) from 18th to 23rd December.

14. *Military.*—The detachment of the 2/55th Cokes' Rifles (F.F.) under Captain W. J. Best stationed at Port Edward rejoined its battalion in North China on 20th June. It was relieved on 2nd October by a further detachment of the same regiment

under Captain W. E. Godwin. Each detachment has maintained the reputation for excellent behaviour on the part of Indian troops at Weihaiwei set up by 1/18th Infantry. The presence of the detachment has without doubt contributed to the perfect quiet of the Territory during the year. Its temporary absence may have given cause to the boldness of the band of robbers who sheltered near Port Edward as mentioned in the next paragraph.

15. *Police.*—Considerable improvement has been noticeable in the general smartness and efficiency of the police during the year. This has been due to the fact that better supervision has been possible, as stated in paragraph 11 above. It is axiomatic that the greater the attention given to and interest shewn in Chinese Police, *et hoc genus omne,* the greater the certain result ; the converse is equally an axiom. Weekly inspections of the Port Edward police are now held by the Senior District Officer and monthly inspections by myself. Mr. Whittaker, the senior Inspector of Police, has been placed in direct charge. With an Inspector stationed in the Territory at Liulintzŭ—as was the case from February, 1912, till March, 1916, and as is again contemplated—the possibility of unfortunate incidents, such as that which resulted during the year in the dismissal and imprisonment of a senior sergeant and detective for withholding from Government the better part of opium seized in the execution of their duty, will be considerably reduced. Without the closest supervision, it is inevitable that native police in responsible positions should be very prone to succumb to any considerable temptation where gain and duty are opposing factors. The remedy is supervision, or rather the creation of healthy public opinion through fear of detection.

In contrast to this one unfortunate incident, excellent work was done by the police in the Territory, and especially by Detective Wang Lien-chih, in bringing to justice a gang of armed burglars who were responsible for almost all the crimes of this nature committed in the Territory during the year. They also discovered that during the summer a gang of " Hung Hu Tzŭ " (bandits) from outside British territory had set up their headquarters in the immediate neighbourhood of Port Edward. The premises were promptly raided and a number of the gang arrested. Unfortunately the leader and another member escaped, and in their flight are believed to have been responsible for the death by shooting of one man and the wounding of another. Nothing further has been heard of them. The Port Edward police were responsible for the smart capture of a man who had strangled a " demimondaine " in Port Edward. On trial the man was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to 4 years imprisonment.

The annual police musketry practice was carried out on the Naval Range on the Island. The results were so good that it has been necessary to revise the standard required to qualify as a " marksman," which was established by Captain (now Major) Binny, when acting as Junior District Officer, in 1919. In spite of the higher standard required, 46 and 55 qualified as " marksmen " and " first class shots " respectively, as against 39 and 37 in 1919, and 31 and 26 in 1920.

16. *Gaol.*—There are two gaols in the Territory, one on the Island with accommodation for 70 prisoners and a staff of one head warder and five warders, and a smaller gaol at Port Edward with accommodation for 30 prisoners and a staff of two warders. It had been the practice latterly to use the Port Edward gaol as a lock-up only. This year a few short sentence prisoners have been retained in this gaol in order to provide labour for Public Works and other useful purposes, and the experiment has borne good results.

17. *Criminal Cases.*—The figures for 1920 and 1921 are as follows :—

Year.	*Criminal Cases.*	*Suicides.*
1920	368	76
1921	479	72

The large increase in the number of cases does not seem to indicate any increase in crime but merely greater vigilance on the part of the police, induced by the better supervision referred to in paragraphs 11 and 15. For instance, Breach of Gambling Regulations accounts for 21, Trafficking in Women, 10, Breach of Harbour Regulations, 17, Breach of Duty, 19, Breach of Sanitary Regulations, 13, Breach of Traffic Regulations, 9, and Breach of Sampan (native boat) Regulations, 10, or a total of 99. Thefts and burglaries decreased by 20, and the only serious crimes have been those alluded to in paragraph 15. The Territory has been quiet and law-abiding, more especially since the rounding-up of the two gangs mentioned in the same paragraph.

Eight cases were tried by the High Court. One, for murder, already alluded to sufficiently in paragraph 15, was tried by His Honour Peter Grain, Assistant Judge of His Majesty's Supreme Court for China, sitting as Judge " ad hoc " of the High Court. Of the remaining 7 cases, one was tried by Sir James H. Stewart Lockhart and 6 by myself, in each case sitting as Judge of the High Court. None requires special comment.

18. *Civil Cases.*—There was a further reduction in the number of civil cases during 1921 of nearly 40 per cent. on the already low figures of last year : 109 cases as against 142 in 1920 and 397 in 1916. It would be pleasing to believe that the continued reduction is due to a less litigious spirit, to greater satisfaction and harmony among the people in the Territory or even to the repeated exhortations to District and Village Headmen to exert their influence and " speak peace " (*anglice,* settle out of Court). The Acting Senior District Officer is of opinion that this last is a principal cause of the diminution, especially as 30 per cent. of cases actually brought into Court were withdrawn and arbitrary and frivolous suits were virtually absent. I am inclined to fear, however, from my own experience as Magistrate that withdrawals

to arbitrate are apt to indicate lack of confidence in the Magistrate's all wisdom, and that failure to litigate denotes the same doubting spirit. Unquestionably one great factor in the reduced number of cases is the inaccessibility of the Port Edward Court as compared with Wench'uant'ang. Whether more arbitrations or less satisfactory causes are the real reason will be proved upon the contemplated reopening in the near future of Wench'uant'ang. Arbitration is of course the best of all settlements. No bitterness in engendered, since " face " is not " lost," the results are often more lasting, and a greater approximation is always possible to those underlying causes of all Chinese lawsuits which are never those which are apparent on the face of the petition.

There were no civil suits which require notice, although their settlement often called for Solomanic insight, and no rehearings by the High Court—as compared with three in 1920. The " village lands " disputes, which were a feature last year, as the inevitable result of the Government Waste Lands Ordinance, 1919, ceased to occupy either Court.

19. *Street Lighting.*—There is no attempt at street lighting in the Territory outside the Island of Liukung and the Port Edward area. In these two areas the streets are lit with 10 and 14 incandescent oil lamps respectively and a number of oil lamps. By a rearrangement of the former in Port Edward and the addition of a few oil lamps, it was found possible to extend the lighting East and West in satisfaction of the legitimate claims of householders living on the outskirts of Port Edward and paying equal rates. A similar adjustment will be made on the Island in 1922.

19*a*. *Fire Brigade.*—Only one fire occurred during the period under review in Port Edward. The Fire Brigade, which held regular practices and of which the record muster numbered 129, is composed principally of volunteers from the various Chinese business houses and shops, and worked well. The " Valiant " Fire Engine which arrived in 1920 has been very satisfactory.

20. *Lighting of the Harbour.*—As mentioned in paragraph 4, the entrances to the Bay of Weihaiwei are efficiently lit by two lighthouses, which were established prior to British occupation by the Chinese Maritime Customs with Chinese personnel, and which are maintained by this Government, under the supervision of the Engineer-in-charge of the Royal Naval Dockyard, Engineer-Commander Sands, Royal Navy. As usual, their working has been faultless and any surprise visit results in unfailing discovery of spotless cleanliness, which affords an object lesson of what Chinese can maintain under foreign supervision.

21. *Boy Scouts.*—The 1st North China Troop of Boy Scouts, which is the oldest troop in North China, and was first mentioned in the Annual Report of this Territory in 1909 and was again mentioned in 1911, has been revived at Weihaiwei School, through the very praiseworthy energy of two of the teaching staff, and together with its auxiliary pack of Wolf Cubs is keen, smart and efficient.

III. FINANCE.

22. The financial year in this Territory ends on March 31st, and it is therefore only possible to give at the time of writing this Report complete returns of Revenue and Expenditure up till 31st December, 1921 :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Grant-in-Aid.* (showing sterling, and dollar.)	
	$	$	$	£
1917–18 ..	.. 128,999	150,234	4,121	650
1918–19 ..	.. 134,543	162,292	23,610	4,000
1919–20 ..	.. 161,726	206,431	31,228	7,900
1920–21 ..	.. 164,973*	235,445*	129,596	20,000
1920 (1st April to 31st December)	147,182	166,983		
1921 (1st April to 31st December)	167,570*	203,903*	43,484	5,800*

23. The estimated revenue and expenditure for the financial year were $171,480 and $256,782. There is every prospect therefore that the estimated revenue, which was a record for the Territory, will be exceeded considerably, and also that savings will be effected in expenditure, owing chiefly to a decision to modify the scheme of water supply for the Island of Liukung at an estimated cost of $7,000, instead of $20,000 inserted in the Estimates.

24. Two new items of taxation were introduced during the year ; Land Tax at the rate of one-half of one per cent. on the assessed value of land in Port Edward for Chinese as well as foreigners, who alone had paid this tax in previous years, and Stamp Tax. The former Tax, from which certain classes of land were exempted in order that no hardship might be inflicted, resulted in an increase in revenue of $3,400. Stamp Tax, which is levied under the Stamp Tax Ordinance, 1921, was estimated to bring in $5,000 ; up till 31st December the revenue derived from this source amounted only to $2,696, which is accounted for by extensive evasion which will be inevitable and is customary until the Chinese realise that a law is not " empty words."

25. The financial position on the whole may be considered satisfactory. Apart from the sum of approximately $8,000 derived from non-recurrent sources, the sources of revenue during the year were healthy and are expected to give increased returns. Non-recurrent expenditure including the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme, which will be completed next June, accounted for $45,703 out of the total estimate of $256,782, which also made

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* Revenue includes $10,509 and $11,031 in 1920 and 1921 respectively on account of the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme (see Section X), and expenditure $3,973 and $38,340 in 1920 and 1921 respectively on account of the same scheme. The total Grant-in-Aid was £8,000, of which £2,200 remained unexpended with the Crown Agents on 31st December.

provision for increased salaries to meet the higher cost of living and an adequate staff. The effect of the higher cost of living and the war bonus, which has hitherto been granted to meet this cost, is first shown in the increased expenditure in 1919–20. A number of non-recurrent and other items of expenditure however, as will be clear from other sections of this Report, must still be incurred and total independence of a Grant-in-Aid cannot be expected in the near future.

IV. ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

26. The boycott of Japanese trade referred to in the last two Annual Reports continued with unabated vigour up till December last, with loss to the trade of the Territory and none to that of Japan. Since 1907, at any rate, salt has formed one of the largest exports, or rather re-exports, of the Territory and Japan is a good and increasing potential market. The remaining markets are Vladivostok and Hongkong, which were bad during 1921 resulting in a heavy decrease in both salt imports and exports. With the lifting of the boycott, salt began to move and export prospects are better. It seems probable, however, that imports will decline in future and that exports will be confined largely to Territory salt, the potentialities of which are referred to in paragraph 37 below.

27. Trade on the whole however was good, the markets for ground-nuts and ground-nut oil, which are the principal exports of the Territory, being brisk. As these exports are paid for in kind rather than cash, the result was a largely increased import of rice, sugar, cotton yarn, tobacco, piece goods, timber and kerosine oil, part of which was absorbed and part of which was re-exported in junks to pay in kind for the imports by junk. Another factor in the increased imports was the recovery of the Territory from the famine of 1919–20.

28. The total value of trade for the year amounted to the record figure of $10,891,823, or a net increase over the previous year of $3,423,650 or approximately 46 per cent. At the same time the total number of " packages " of all kinds, imported and exported, decreased from 1,585,101 in 1920 to 1,411,571 in 1921. [See Table : " Total Volume and Value of Trade." (Appendix II)]. This contradiction is accounted for by the fact that packages of smaller value imported and exported by junk decreased by over 200,000 packages, while the number of packages of more valuable cargo carried by steamers both ways showed an increase. The number of packages except in regard to the same class of goods is a misleading index of trade but gives a partial indication to shipping dues, which are not levied " ad valorem " but per package of goods. The increased value of trade unfortunately does not therefore denote a corresponding increase in revenue.

CORRIGENDA.

Paragraph 28—*for* "**$10,891,823**" ***read*** "**$11,209,941.**"
for "**$3,423,650**" ***read*** "**$3,741,768.**"

Paragraph 33—*for* "**$5,630,432**" ***read*** "**$5,948,548.**"

Paragraph 35—*add* "Ground-nut Oil, 1920 ... **$55,560**
1921 ... **$353,465**
Increase 1921 ... **$297,905.**"

APPENDIX V.

Ground-nut Oil—*for* "**$35,346**" ***read*** "**$353,465.**"

APPENDIX II.

IMPORTS BY JUNK, 1921,

for "**$2,235,110**" ***read*** "**$2,553,228.**"

Total Imports—*for* "**$5,630,432**" ***read*** "**$5,948,548.**"

Total Trade—*for* "**$10,891,823**" ***read*** "**$11,209,941.**"

Net increase for 1921—*for* "**$3,423,649**" ***read*** "**$3,741,767.**"

Colonial Report No. 1118. Weihaiwei, 1921.

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29. *Exports.*—The principal exports of the Territory are salt, fish (salt and dried), and ground-nuts and ground-nut oil. In spite of a decrease in value of salt and fish exported of $550,141 and $49,994 respectively, the total value of exports amounted to $5,261,391 as against $2,926,622 in 1920, or an increase of nearly 80 per cent. This is largely accounted for by the good ground-nut market which resulted in an increased export (by value) of ground-nuts, ground-nut kernels and ground-nut oil over 1920 of $1,137,983. This large increase in value was due mainly to a rise in prices in these commodities and only partly to increased volume of trade (see Appendices III and IV).

30. It is interesting to trace the growth of this export trade from the Territory. The first mention of the export of ground-nuts and ground-nut kernels is found in the Annual Report for 1907 and of ground-nut oil in that for 1912. Up till 1914 the principal market was Hamburg. Now nearly all such exports are sold to Hongkong for redistribution. A table (Appendix III) is attached showing all figures of export available.

31. *Exports (Steamers).*—For the reasons stated in paragraph 27, exports (and imports) by steamer and exports (and imports) by junk require distinguishing. A comparative table is attached (Appendix IV) showing the principal exports both by steamer and junk in 1920 and 1921. (The totals of exports and imports by steamer and junk during 1920 and 1921 are shown in Appendix II). The reasons for the principal increases and decreases have already been referred to in paragraphs 26 and 29. As regards exports by steamers, the chief increases and decreases (in values) were as follows :—

	1920.	1921.	*Increase.*
	$	$	$
Ground-nuts	4,556	79,072	74,516
Ground-nut kernels ..	1,290,384	2,062,368	771,984
Ground-nut oil	45,978	331,691	285,713
Eggs	10,765	35,410	24,645
			Decrease.
Salt	913,561	363,420	550,141
Fish	68,090	38,272	29,818

32. *Exports (Junk).*—The chief increases and decreases in value were as follows :—

	1920.	1921.	*Increase.*
	$	$	$
Bean cake	7,342	18,858	11,576
Eggs	835	3,405	2,560
Sugar	62,175	251,025	188,850
			Decrease.
Fish (salt or dried) ..	71,654	51,478	20,176

This re-export of sugar, which is imported chiefly from Hongkong, was explained in paragraph 27. The decrease exports of fish (both by steamer and junk) are due to smaller catches, although the price of fish rose.

33. *Imports.*—The total value of imports during 1921 amounted to $5,630,432, as compared with $4,541,551 in 1920. The increase is accounted for partly by the volume of goods imported and partly by increase in values. The principal imports both by steamer and junk in 1920 and 1921 are shown in the comparative table (Appendix V).

34. *Imports* (*Steamer*).—The principal increases and decreases in such imports by values are as follows :—

	1920.	1921.	*Increase.*
	$	$	$
Rice	304	197,868	197,564
Sugar	121,425	509,445	388,020
Cotton yarn	640,390	911,710	271,380
Oil (Kerosine)	440	95,438	94,998
Coal	51,155	149,875	98,720
Tobacco	11,970	52,260	40,290
Timber	75,068	122,100	47,030
Piece goods	181,600	342,800	161,200
			Decrease.
Flour	102,451	88,632	13,819
Provisions	112,880	77,000	35,880
Kaoliang	38,895	Nil.	38,895

The import of "Kaoliang" in 1920 was on account of famine relief. Flour shows a further decrease. Provisions probably reacted from excessive stocks in the previous year. The increased imports, more especially of rice, tobacco, piece-goods, and timber, denote recovery from the famine. Piece-goods have more than recovered the large drop of last year.

35. *Imports* (*Junk*).—The principal increases and decreases in these imports by value are as follows :—

	1920	1921	*Increase.*
	$	$	$
Beancake oil	25,830	255,900	230,070
Millet	9,270	29,125	19,855
Chinese wine	144,403	213,840	69,437
			Decrease.
Salt	66,891	20,542	46,349
Kaoliang	37,785	9,373	28,412
Indian corn	264,862	159,010	105,852

The last two decreases are due to cessation of famine ; that of salt over the already low import in 1920 was probably due to causes stated in paragraph 37 below.

36. *Shipping.*—The total number of steamers that called at Port Edward, exclusive of those seeking shelter only on account of stress of weather, was 554 of 518,767 tons, as compared with 515 of 480,287 tons in 1920 and 146 of 151,809 in 1902. The nationalities of these steamers were : British 405, Chinese 140, Japanese 2, Russian 3, American 3, Polish 1. British steamers showed an increase of 55 and Chinese a decrease of 16.

The total number of junks entering and clearing was 1,998, as compared with 2,874 in 1920: a decrease due to the reduction in imports of salt, which virtually ceased in 1921, and to reduced imports of grain in consequence of good crops.

37. *Salt and other Industries.*—The most important industry in the Territory at present, actually and potentially, is the production of salt by evaporation. In 1902 the area under salt pans was less than 30 acres. During recent years it has increased enormously, and it is now estimated that the area under development capable of producing good salt is 600 acres.

38. The decreased imports and exports of salt have already been referred to. They amounted to 56,495 and 135,313 piculs respectively, as compared with 268,103 and 384,161 piculs in 1920 (1 picul=133⅓ lbs.), entailing a loss in "extra salt dues," apart from shipping dues, of $3,037. The main causes were explained in paragraph 26. In addition, high junk freights and, in the autumn, control by the Chinese Salt Administration of the Shantung Promontory salt supply, which has been for centuries free and uncontrolled, were strongly contributory causes. It is stated that, in order to pacify the Tung An (i.e. Promontory) salt merchants, export of their salt abroad to Corea has been sanctioned. If this rumour is correct, and there is reason to suppose it is, this Territory will have to depend in future on its own production for export abroad, and it is no longer safe to count on a source of revenue, which, though fluctuating, has prevailed since 1905, when exports to Japan are first mentioned.

39. The production of Territory salt in 1921 is said to have amounted to 1,500 tons (25,200 piculs) only. The estimate is made by competent observers, and is probably correct, since a strong gale, in conjunction with abnormally high tides, destroyed or damaged all the "salt pans" last summer along the coast, with a reported loss of 7,000 piculs of salt and damage amounting to several thousands of dollars. I am inclined to think, however, that the present normal annual output amounts to 33,600 piculs and that, with amalgamation of salterns and more modern methods without undue expenditure, the same area should produce over 300,000 piculs annually at a conservative estimate. The consumption of the Territory is estimated at 15,441 piculs (i.e. 10 catties a head for all purposes, which is the estimated normal *per caput* consumption in China, as against 18 in Japan and 12 in India). This will leave a surplus of 285,559 piculs per annum for export, for which there is undoubtedly a ready and increasing market in Japan, where there is danger of shortage of salt for industrial purposes (see Board of Trade Journal of 9th June, 1921, p. 644).

40. For the last two years a salt refinery has been contemplated, but, although Chinese capital was forthcoming, the project has not materialised, owing probably in part to uncertainty as to the future of Weihaiwei and in part to the uncertainty of a market for the refined salt, to which markets would be closed in China, where salt is a Government monopoly.

41. *Other Industries.*—There are no manufactures in the Territory. During the year the making by hand of lace, stockings and hair nets has increased. The first and a very interesting reference to this last named industry, which has reached enormous dimensions at Chefoo, where the export in 1921 valued Hk. $7,078,230, is to be found at page 8 of the Annual Report for 1913. There is no reason why this trade as well as that of lace making should not be more important at Weihaiwei even than in Chefoo.

42. *Agriculture and Forestry.*—The export crops, i.e. the spring crop of wheat and the autumn crop of ground-nuts, were excellent. The remaining autumn crops, which are the staple foodstuffs of the people, were only average and the bean crop failed. There has been no cadastral survey of the Territory, and neither the areas under cultivation generally nor still less under individual crops can be accurately ascertained. It is estimated, however, that only two-fifths of the Territory is cultivable.

43. *Land.*—The value of land in Port Edward and on the Island of Liukung is assessed, as has been already stated, at $250 to $800 a mou. The value of land elsewhere varies from $10 to $250 a mou. By Chinese law and custom, all unoccupied lands, whether originally waste or formerly cultivated, but abandoned through famine, civil war or otherwise, are deemed to be public property and vest in the State. It has never been ascertained what (undoubtedly large) proportion of land in the Territory falls under these categories, but it is certain that prescriptive rights at least have been enjoyed over almost all such areas by communities or individuals over long periods, and the right, though acknowledged in all cases which have arisen, would be difficult to enforce, if total deprivation of such prescriptive rights were the end in view.

44. *Labour.*—A table is attached (Appendix VI) showing the average rate of wages for labour within the Territory

45. *Forestry.*—In comparison with the enormous sums spent on afforestation during the German occupation of Tsingtao, the sum which has been spent in this Territory, which amounts to approximately $49,000, is negligible. Such improvements, however, have been gradually effected as funds permitted. Over three million fir trees were planted on the Island between 1907 and 1917. The hill sides in the neighbourhood of Port Edward have been largely planted with fir trees supplied by the Government, and the roads are lined with acacia trees (*robinia-pseudo-acacia*) —a tree peculiarly suited to the climate of the Territory, and of which large numbers are grown annually in the Government nurseries and supplied at a nominal charge to the villagers. The Chinese population, however, have not yet grasped the advisability of afforesting the hills. The present desire for fuel during the cold winter months is a much more cogent argument than the hope of the future.

46. During the year under review but little has been done in the way of forestry. On the mainland, 700 acacia trees were planted out ; 11,505 one-year acacia trees were planted in the East fort and have grown most successfully ; 16,480 acacia trees were grown from Government seed. A large number of shrubs were planted out in Government land. On the Island, 3,000 acacia trees (supplied from the mainland) and 600 shrubs were planted at the Naval Village ; besides the planting out and bedding of various trees and shrubs. The caterpillar, known locally as the " fir-dog," conducted his usual attacks on the fir trees both on the mainland and Island, and women were employed for periods during the summer months for their destruction.

47. *Banks and Currency.*—The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Chartered Bank of India, Australasia and China have both had agencies in the Territory from its earliest days. The rate of exchange is obtained daily by cable from Shanghai and banking facilities are good. The average telegraphic transfer rate on London during 1921 was 2/6⅞=$1.

The currency of the Territory is a matter which has long received attention and requires reform. At present there is no recognised currency. The " Shanghai " notes of the two banks above mentioned circulate at " par." All other notes of foreign banks circulate only at a discount. Mexican and Chinese silver dollars and Chinese silver and copper subsidiary coinage of all kinds circulate. There was an excessive import of copper coins during 1921 and steps were taken to prevent further importation.

In addition to the above coinage, a number of native shops issue " notes," both " dollar " and " cash," which form in practice the usual currency of the people. In order to check excessive issues the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Port Edward and the native city, agreed to " chop " and guarantee payment of such " native shop notes " as were registered with them under strict rules as to supervision, issue and reserve. In practice, this system has worked satisfactorily since its introduction a few years back. It has greatly checked the number of bankruptcies and attendant harm to holders of notes who now know that they accept all other " native shop notes " at their own risk. The Government, in practice, prefers to accept " chopped " notes in payment rather than silver dollars, but they are not accepted as currency by the foreign banks.

V. LEGISLATION.

48. Ten Ordinances were introduced during the year, of which five were connected with the Treaties of Peace after the late war.

The three following Ordinances only are of any general interest :

1. The Peace Preservation Ordinance (No. 2 of 1921).
2. The Stamp Ordinance (No. 5 of 1921).
3. The Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Ordinance (No. 10 of 1921).

The last-named Ordinance provides for the reciprocal enforcement of judgments between the High Court of this Territory and a superior Court of the United Kingdom, and provides for extension of the procedure in the event of reciprocity to any part of His Majesty's dominions.

Ordinance No. 2 of 1921 gives the Commissioner the necessary powers to preserve the peace in case of civil disturbances. The Stamp Ordinance grants the Commissioner powers to collect fees by means of revenue stamps for certain services set forth in the Schedules to the Ordinance, which Schedules in the case of Weihaiwei, with its native population, are partly based on the similar Schedules of Hongkong and partly on those obtaining under the Stamp Law of China.

VI. EDUCATION.

49. *European.*—There is one Preparatory School for European boys in Port Edward (Weihaiwei School). The pupils range from 8 to 14 years of age, and are drawn from all parts of China, and are mainly British boys. The atmosphere of the school is essentially British.

The enrolment for 1921 was 38 and the staff consists of the headmaster, one assistant master and two mistresses, assisted by a matron and a gymnasium instructor, all Europeans.

The curriculum embraces the usual subjects taught in home schools of similar grade and a special feature is preparation for entrance into Public Schools in England. There is a school playing ground and sport is specially catered for.

50. *Chinese Mission Schools.*—Missionary educational activity is not very extensive in the Territory, and is confined to industrial and more or less primary grades. All the mission schools are situated in Port Edward, but a girls' school is about to be reopened in a large village about 20 miles from Port Edward.

51. *Roman Catholics.*—(*a*) *Industrial.* The institution carried on by the Convent Sisters is not primarily educational, but as young girls are constantly trained there and periodically leave the institution for their homes it represents what is practically an educational agency.

The chief branches are lace making and embroidery. These are taught by specialists from Europe. Lace of a superior grade is made under the supervision of the special instructresses, who teach the art of designing as well as practical bobbin work. The result is that a steady stream of competent lace workers, capable of continuing their occupation in their own homes or in the employment of manufacturers, is constantly flowing from the convent into the Territory. This class of skilled workers is a valuable asset to the community, and their economic value is being felt in their employment by traders from lace centres further North, who have opened small branches of their establishments in Weihaiwei City. Native employers also engage the trained workers, sometimes in small factories and often in the workers' own homes.

(*b*) *Primary Education.*—Nil.

52. *Anglican.*—The Anglican Mission (Society for the Propagation of the Gospel) has one boys' school in Port Edward. The enrolment during 1921 was 140, the ages ranging from 10 to 20 years. The school is difficult to grade as no particular curriculum is followed. Its main subject is the teaching of English, but Chinese subjects also are taught. The staff comprises one European master and six Chinese assistant masters, some of whom engage in the teaching of English in addition to Chinese subjects. Funds are derived entirely from fees.

53. *Independent Missions.*—The Plymouth Brethren have established two schools in Port Edward, one for girls and one for boys. The Girls' School is divided into Lower and Higher Primary and follows a special curriculum, set by the Central China Educational Board, which approximates closely to the curriculum prescribed by the Chinese Government. Attendance averages about 50 with a staff of three teachers. No statistics are given for the boys' school. The expenses are met largely from mission funds. Fees are low and in many instances are not levied.

54. *Government Schools.*—(1) One Boys' School, Lower and Higher Primary with English; enrolment 146; staff, four teachers and visiting teachers in special subjects. Conducted entirely under Government supervision. Curriculum—Chinese Government Board of Education. About one-half of the pupils are free, the other half pay nominal fees. Balance from Government funds.

(2) *Mixed School in Liukungtao.*—Subsidized by Government ($250 per annum) and balance of about $400 to $450 by contribution. Grade Lower and Higher Primary, attendance averages between 40 and 50. Teachers, 1.

55. *Indigenous Schools.*—There are in the Territory nearly 300 vernacular schools, with an attendance of about 5,000 pupils of from 6 to 16 years old. The number of girls is under 100.

The schools are divided nearly equally into two classes, the Modern and what may be described as the Old Style.

The former attempt to conform to the standard of the Chinese Government Board of Education and for the most part are divided into Lower and Higher Primary. Some of the modern schools are very efficient and are staffed by fully qualified teachers; a few attempt to teach English.

The old style schools follow traditional Chinese methods and specialise on the Chinese classics. Some are quite up to the standard of similar schools in China proper, but others are very inefficient. There is however a commendable keenness gradually to abolish this type of school and substitute modern schools. The difficulty is dearth of suitable teachers on the one hand, and a reluctance on the part of some villages to discard the old style of teacher, who finds it difficult to adjust himself to the requirements of modern educational methods.

It is difficult to arrive at the actual cost of the Territory schools. The school buildings are in nearly every case provided by the village communities and are generally public buildings, such as temples, or what correspond to parish halls in England. The expense of upkeep, etc., falls on the villages. There are also outlays on school furniture, which in the case of modern schools must be considerable. These expenditures are also provided for by the villagers and in some cases contributed to by the richer Chinese.

The only item of expenditure in regard to which accurate returns are made is teachers' salaries, which in 1921 amounted to about $15,000, derived partly from fees and partly from communal, and in some instances family or even private, subscriptions.

In addition to stipends the teachers also receive gifts of foodstuffs and in some cases travelling expenses.

VII. VITAL STATISTICS, MEDICAL AND SANITARY.

56. *Census.*—The decennial Census was taken throughout the Territory between 24th April and 16th May. A separate and interesting Report on the Census was written by Mr. Hardy Jowett, Acting Senior District Officer, who was the Officer in Charge, and it will be sufficient to state here that the native population, as already noted, was found to be 154,416, as compared with 146,840 in 1911, or an increase of 5·3 per cent., while the foreign population was 246, as compared with 293 in 1911. Among the Chinese population there were 80,953 males to 73,463 females, in spite of a fairly large emigration of the former to Manchuria.

57. *The Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages* among the Chinese population is not compulsory and no figures are available. During 1921 among the foreign population there were one birth, three deaths and three marriages, as against two, two, and three respectively in the preceding year.

The Census revealed the fact that the number of infants under 5 years of age was 17,859, and the number of adults over 70 5,418, of whom 20 were over 90.

58. The general health condition of Europeans was good. Of the three deaths only one was of an infectious disease (dysentery). There was one other case of acute dysentery among visitors and one case of scarlet fever in a resident. During the summer on the Island of Liukung there were a few cases of septic throats.

59. The health of the native population was equally good. A mild out-break of influenza occurred in May, when 56 cases were seen ; two of these were treated in hospital, and both recovered. The only other cases of infectious diseases noted were six of enteric fever, four of erysipelas, and thirty-two of mumps.

The annual vaccination campaign was carried out from 15th March to 15th April. The total number of vaccinations was 6,794, of whom 98·8 per cent. were successful, as compared with 5,514, with a percentage of 98·26 successes in 1920.

60. *Hospitals.*—There is no European civil hospital in the Territory and the need is urgent, especially during the summer months, when the hotels are full of visitors with their children. Segregation hospital accommodation for natives as well as Europeans is still unprovided for. There are three native civil hospitals, one at Port Edward, one on the Island of Liukung, and one at Wench'uant'ang, with accommodation respectively for 41, 12, and 4 patients. When the Senior Medical Officer, Dr. Muat, arrived in 1906 there was only a makeshift native hospital at Port Edward with 15 trestle beds, and a total attendance of 4,806 patients. In 1908 the present Port Edward Hospital was begun and was gradually added to as funds permitted. In 1920 attendances numbered 14,500, and in 1921, 14,040, including 9,651 " out " and 277 " in " patients Sixty-four major operations were performed, including three abdominal sections, one amputation of the arm and one radical cure for hernia, all of which were successful. The Island Hospital was built in 1915, and in 1921 there were 3,266 attendances, including 2,355 "out" and 33 "in" patients. The Wench'uant'ang Hospital, which is in charge of a native assistant, was built in 1916 and attendances during 1921 were 6,969, including 6,283 new cases, as compared with 6,367 attendances, including 5,383 new cases, in 1920. The medical progress in the Territory reflects great credit on Dr. Muat.

61. *Sanitation.*—Considerable improvements have been effected during the year in the sanitary condition of Port Edward and the Island, although sanitary conditions at Weihaiwei have for years past excited the favourable comment of visitors. It is proposed to pursue a policy of gradual improvement in Port Edward, as funds permit, including the sinking of artesian wells in order to secure a supply of pure water. Several such private wells already exist. A pure water supply for the island has been assured by the sinking of two artesian wells and a third is in course of preparation. Before next summer the present system, which aims at providing at well-head, or from stand pipes in convenient positions, an ample supply for drinking purposes and, in case of drought, when the shallow wells are apt to run dry, an ample supply for all purposes, should be complete. With the completion, it is hoped, during 1922 of a few minor improvements the sanitary condition of the Island should be as ideal as practical politics allow. The Chinese population is limited, and will all be housed under proper sanitary conditions. Chinese cultivation is prohibited. It is true that the system of earth closets and removal of night-soil by hand at stated intervals obtain both on the Island and in Port Edward, but in such a small community the method is fairly satisfactory, so long as it receives the constant supervision which is now possible under a qualified Sanitary Inspector.

VIII. CLIMATE.

62. The climate of Weihaiwei is without superior on the China coast and, taken the whole year round, can have few superiors in the world. The winds which are prevalent in the spring are sometimes unpleasant, and the cold from mid-December until mid-March, with an insufficient snowfall for winter sports, is not inviting, but neither heat nor cold are ever excessive, the air is dry and bracing, rainy days are few, and sunshine is a normal condition. It is unfortunate that visitors to Weihaiwei experience some of the most unpleasant months. The weather from mid-September until mid-December is almost perfect. A good description of the local climate is to be found at page 6 of the Annual Report for 1918.

63. The highest barometric reading obtained during the year was 30·621 in December and the lowest 29·180 in July, the average monthly range being ·621. The highest and lowest temperatures recorded were 92° Fahrenheit and 16° Fahrenheit, in August and January respectively.

The two wettest months were September and August, with 8·51 and 3·85 inches. Rain or snow fell on 58 days, the total rainfall being 23·36 inches as against 20·16, 18·17 and 15·53 inches in the three preceding years. The average rainfall in the past 21 years is 22·002 inches; the highest rainfall was that of 1914 with 47·72 inches, and the lowest that of 1918 with 15·53 inches.

There were 271 days of sunshine, the greatest number in any months being 27 and 26 in January and October, and the lowest number 17 and 19 in July and October respectively.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS, ROADS, TELEPHONES, TELEGRAPHS AND POSTS.

64. *Communications and Roads.*—Port Edward lies approximately 10 miles, 18 miles and 7 miles off the direct steamer routes Shanghai-Chefoo-Tientsin, Shanghai-Dalny, and Shanghai-Chinwangtao respectively. Communication by sea during four months in the summer is good, an average of three British ships calling every week at the port both from Shanghai and Tientsin. During six more months it is satisfactory, and during January and February only it leaves much to be desired.

There are no railways in the Territory, and it is certain that the construction of a broad gauge railway, connecting up with the hinterland would, at the present stage, be premature. It is doubtful even whether a light railway would pay its way. The line of development in communications best suited to the present needs of the Territory is the adaptation of the existing roads to motor lorry traffic. During 1921 the Government was approached in the matter by certain Chinese merchants of Port Edward, who proposed to run a service of motor lorries between Port Edward and markets outside the Territory, where they stated that the roads were sufficiently good for the purpose. This Government has been advised that the existing roads within the Territory are not suited for motor traffic, although they are very much superior to any neighbouring roads in Chinese Territory. It is estimated that the total cost of conversion of the present Territory road system into first class motor roads would be $424,000—widening, altering bad bends, putting in concrete culverts, bridges, etc., including construction of 3½ miles of new road to the frontier at Ts'aomiaotzu—and that the subsequent annual cost of upkeep would be $32,000 as compared with $11,000 at the present time. The cost of total conversion would be prohibitive, but the conversion of the existing road to the frontier at Ch'iaot'ou, with a branch to Liulintzu, which is 3½ miles from the frontier at Ts'aomiaotzu—a total of 22½ miles—would meet any pressing need, the cost would be little more than half (with a corresponding reduction in upkeep) and, if the demand continues, measures are contemplated to proceed with the work and raise the necessary funds by a voluntary levy on shipping dues similar to that which built the Wuk'ou pier and is building the Wuk'ou improvement scheme.

At the neighbouring Chinese port of Chefoo similar road construction has been much canvassed and many schemes are in contemplation to be paid for by a voluntary surtax on Customs Dues. A mud road from Chefoo-Weihsien is said to be almost completed at a cost of nearly $1,000,000.

65. There are 50 miles of macadamised Government roads, which are maintained in good condition for cart and carriage traffic at an annual cost, including gradual improvement, not exceeding $15,000, as against 23 miles of mud roads in 1902, of which the annual cost of maintenance was estimated at $2,000. In addition, there are now some 50 miles of village roads or " byways," of which about 28 additional miles were opened during the year, which are partly macadamised and possible for carriage traffic, but are mainly improved mule tracks, possible for carts only. The Government continues to encourage these " village roads " both by propaganda and by an annual subsidy, and continues to be indebted to Mr. Liang Tejang of Mengchiachuang for the unremunerated trouble he has taken in their supervision and for his pioneer keenness and example, which has done and is doing much to improve inter-communication within the Territory. During the year under review, despite the ever increasing traffic and a rainfall of 6·65 inches in a few hours on 18th September which did considerable damage, Government roads have been maintained in fair condition. Another dangerous place near Ch'ichiachuang has been dealt with and the road protected and widened. A similar section near Hushan is to be dealt with in 1922. A portion of the road near the South Gate has been widened and protected by a retaining wall and on various sections concrete culverts have been put in. All roads within the Territory have unquestionably improved greatly during the last few years under the supervision of Mr. Jennings, the Inspector of Police in charge of Public Works.

66. *Telephones.*—There is a telephone system in Port Edward, the management of which was taken over by the Government in 1917, and a fairly satisfactory day and night service is maintained. The system, however, is a single line system, is very worn, and there is not sufficient accommodation to meet the demand. During the year it became possible to accommodate seven more subscribers by utilising an old switchboard and creating a sub-exchange for Government Officers at the Headquarters Police Station. A telephone cable, renewed in 1917, connects the mainland with the Island, where a small telephone system is maintained by the Admiralty.

67. *Telegraphs.*—The Chefoo-Weihaiwei Cable, which is subsidised by the Imperial Government and worked by the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, with a head office on the Island of Liukung and a branch office at Port Edward, which is maintained by this Government, worked well throughout the year. A flaw occurred in the autumn, but was fortunately located near the Island by Mr. Spencer, the local Superintendent of the Company, and was picked up and repaired by him at a negligible cost.

In addition, the Chinese Telegraph Administration have an office in the Native City of Weihaiwei with a land line running through the Territory and terminating at Chefoo.

68. *Posts.*—Apart from a branch of the Chinese Postal Administration in the Native City of Weihaiwei, which does not concern this report, the Postal Services of the Territory are maintained by an Agency of the Hongkong Post Office, with a main office in Port Edward and a branch office on the Island of Liukung. The Territory does not maintain its own Post Office.

The mails despatched by steamers—and occasionally by couriers to Chefoo through the medium of the Chinese Postal Administration—consisted of 753 bags, containing 5,961 registered articles and 3,440 parcels, in addition to unregistered correspondence and 362 closed bags in transit. The mails received consisted of 1,159 bags and 19 covers, containing 1,871 registered articles, 1,447 parcels, in addition to ordinary correspondence, and 215 closed bags in transit.

The mails received from London via Shanghai were despatched on 65 days and received at the Postal Agency on 57 days. One mail arrived from London in 34 days but another took 59 days before it reached Weihaiwei. The irregularity of the mails is partly accounted for by the unsatisfactory steamer connections during the winter, referred to in paragraph 64.

The presence of the Fleet and the record number of summer visitors made their influence felt in a considerable increase in receipts over 1920, which showed in its turn a great advance on the previous year. The total receipts of the past six years are as follows:—

	$		$
1916 ..	7,035.21	1919 ..	8,415.52
1917 ..	14,504.08	1920 ..	22,896.16
1918 ..	9,275.33	1921 ..	40,304.53

X. PUBLIC WORKS.

69. By far the most important work under this heading during the year was the commencement of the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme from plans prepared by Messrs. Wright and Henderson of the Public Works Department in Hongkong. The scheme consists in bunding and reclaiming a portion of the sea front beside the Wuk'ou Pier and the erection of an enclosed compound with storage sheds, and is designed for the better handling, storage, loading and unloading of cargo. The cost is being defrayed by a loan secured by a voluntary levy of 25 per cent. on shipping dues. On 2nd March the tender of a local contractor was accepted for $49,300. The work of collecting the necessary stone and other materials was commenced at once, and by the end of April it was possible to commence the work of constructing the sea wall. The work was continued steadily until Christmas, when stopped by frost, and stood the test of a strong gale combined with the highest tide known in the past twenty years, which occurred during the summer and has already been referred to in connection with the destruction of the salt pans. Good progress has been made, and it is hoped to complete the works by June next. Mr. Henderson of the Public Works Department in Hongkong visited Weihaiwei in August in connection with the above works and in connection with the question of the Island Water Supply.

70. The only other Public Work on the mainland which requires comment is the virtual reconstruction and enlargement of the Public Slaughter-House, where the whole of the meat consumed by the China Fleet during their annual visit is slaughtered. It is now an up-to-date and very creditable slaughter-house.

71. On the Island, the lay-out of the Civil East Village has been completed, two laundries have been built by private capital but " in accordance with plan," to deal with the washing of the Fleet, and two blocks of shops have been erected in the West Village. The sites for these shops were leased by Government and the shops erected in accordance with plans prepared by Messrs. Wright and Henderson, at the expense of the lessees. One similar block will complete the outlay of the West Village and will be proceeded with as soon as weather permits in the spring. The Water Supply of the Island has already been referred to in paragraph 61.

A. P. BLUNT,
Officer Administering
the Government.

Government House,
Weihaiwei.
4th March, 1922.

APPENDIX I.

Financial Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Savings from previous year.	Grants-in-Aid.	
				Sterling.	Dollars.
	$	$	$	£	$
1902–03 ..	31,715 00	142,500 00	—	12,000	—
1903–04 ..	58,364 02	166,921 70	82,820 96	12,000	112,643 36
1904–05 ..	90,415 00	162,282 70	90,785 62	6,000	65,312 26
1905–06 ..	105,934 02	146,120 12	84,230 24	3,000	30,869 56
1906–07 ..	76,777 13	160,973 63	72,245 00	4,500	41,829 64
1907–08 ..	80,331 47	173,340 82	29,878 87	10,000	93,159 27
1908–09 ..	83,277 20	168,740 71	30,028 79	10,000	112,489 26
1909–10 ..	83,499 49	145,687 90	57,054 54	4,400	52,402 16
1910–11 ..	75,353 58	145,028 58	47,268 29	5,000	59,401 67
1911–12 ..	75,673 61	153,690 38	36,994 96	6,000	68,571 43
1912–13 ..	79,582 11	146,146 70	23,820 12	6,000	61,880 37
1913–14 ..	93,780 46	166,959 73	21,865 40	8,300	86,391 24
1914–15 ..	109,898 84	148,185 77	35,077 37	5,000	55,868 54
1915–16 ..	115,662 00	156,697 27	52,117 40	3,500	40,756 02
1916–17 ..	126,908 75	139,299 43	52,379 73	Nil.	Nil.

APPENDIX II.

Table of Total Volume and Value of Trade.

	1920.		1921.	
	Packages.	$	Packages.	$
Imports by Steamers ..	137,524	2,458,092	190,875	3,395,322
Imports by Junks ..	865,846	2,083,459	632,505	2,235,110
Total Imports ..	1,003,370	4,541,551	823,380	5,630,432
Exports by Steamers ..	487,043	2,579,612	495,957	4,731,990
Exports by Junks ..	94,697	347,011	92,234	529,401
Total Exports ..	581,740	2,926,623	588,191	5,261,391
Total Trade ..	(1,585,110)	7,468,174	(1,411,571)	10,891,823

Net increase in values of 1921 over 1920 = $3,423,649.

APPENDIX III.

Export of Ground Nuts, Etc., 1905–1921 (*inclusive*).

Year.	Ground Nuts—piculs.	Kernels—piculs.	Oil—tins.
1905	5,219	2,877	—
1906	24,168	13,505	—
1907	12,294	25,320	—
1908	16,000	60,753	—
1909	39,600	100,700	—
1910	6,893	141,293	—
1911	9,190	142,961	—
1912	3,780	123,223	13,067
1913	5,947	176,036	26,666
1914	4,724	187,793	10,788
1915	10,214	247,572	25,519
1916	2,890	173,934	33,298
1917	No Figures.		
1918			
1919	" "	269,160	13,738
1920		301,053	15,326
1921	56,933	360,914	94,769

1 picul = 133⅓ lbs.
1 tin = 4 galls.

APPENDIX IV.

Comparative Table of Principal Exports.

	Classifier of Quantity.	1921.				1920.			
		By Steamers.		By Junks.		By Steamers.		By Junks.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			$		$		$		$
Bean cakes ..	pieces	—	—	9,429	18,858	50	65	5,648	7,342
Bean oil ..	barrels	—	—	995	9,950	—	—	27	270
Bean paste ..	tins	171	855	1,783	8,915	79	395	949	4,745
Casks ..		595	14,775	—	—	551	11,020	—	—
Cotton yarn	bales	—	—	100	3,550	—	—	40	6,800
Cotton, raw ..	bales	7	245	85	2,875	2	60	480	14,400
Eggs ..	crates	7,082	35,410	681	3,405	2,153	10,765	167	835
Groundnut kernels,	bags	257,796	2,062,368	794	6,352	215,064	1,290,384	97	582
Groundnut oil	tins	94,769	331,691	1,012	3,542	15,326	45,978	2,777	6,831
Groundnuts	bags	22,594	79,072	120	420	2,278	4,556	82	164
Fish—Salt and dried.	baskets	4,784	38,272	6,434	51,478	6,809	68,090	10,236	71,654
Leather ..	bundles	1	70	70	11,963	—	—	269	539
Medicine ..	boxes	80	4,000	578	28,900	427	4,270	513	5,130
Old iron .	piculs	—	—	3,082	15,143	—	—	5,009	25,049
Paper ..	bales	32	96	1,867	7,468	—	—	2,756	11,024
Sasson ..	boxes	1,036	31,080	—	—	916	27,480	—	—
Salt ..	piculs	90,855	363,430	46	16	228,379	913,561	18	5
Sugar ..	bags	135	1,755	16,735	251,025	16	240	4,145	62,175
Timber ..	pieces	12	144	31,509	18,905	—	—	41,051	24,630

APPENDIX V.

Comparative Table of Principal Imports.

	Classifier of Quantity.	1921.				1920.			
		By Steamers.		By Junks.		By Steamers.		By Junks.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			$		$		$		$
Beans ..	bags	—	—	8,865	31,028	—	—	16,687	50,062
Bean cakes ..	pieces	4,563	11,407	39,238	78,476	—	—	78,593	102,170
Bean oil ..	tins	—	—	25,590	255,900	110	1,980	2,583	25,830
Candles ..	cases	6,089	24,356	47	188	619	2,476	128	448
Cement ..	casks	3,710	29,680	96	576	2,107	12,642	24	140
Cigarettes ..	cases	788	95,460	6	720	594	71,280	10	1,200
Coal ..	tons	11,529	149,875	1,281	19,221	3,935	51,155	1,646	21,399
Chinese wine	jars	2,632	3,158	26,730	213,840	2,149	2,579	20,629	144,403
Coin capper..	bags	—	—	806	56,420	—	—	523	36,610
Cotton, raw..	bales	3,977	119,310	197	6,895	5,967	179,010	394	11,820
Cotton yarn	bales	5,363	911,710	—	—	3,767	640,390	5	850
Corn, Indian	bags	1	4	53,003	159,010	7,065	28,260	105,945	264,862
Fish—Salt and dried.	baskets	—	—	10,753	86,027	3	33	13,263	92,841
Flour ..	bags	29,544	88,632	19,615	58,845	35,328	102,451	14,277	39,976
Groundnut kernels.	bags	480	3,840	79,041	632,328	—	—	95,698	574,188
Groundnut oil	tins	—	—	100,990	35,346	—	—	18,520	55,560
Gunny Bags	bales	2,138	106,900	238	9,520	1,673	83,650	4	200
Kerosene oil	cases	15,149	95,438	8,544	51,264	80	440	19,789	108,840
Kaoliang ..	piculs	—	—	3,124	9,373	15,558	38,895	15,114	37,785
Matches ..	cases	62	310	2,256	14,100	2,211	11,055	458	1,374
Millet ..	bags	—	—	7,281	29,125	—	—	2,317	9,270
Paper ..	bales	14,269	57,076	9,981	39,924	9,901	39,604	6,348	25,392
Piece Goods	boxes	1,714	342,800	61	12,300	908	181,600	119	23,800
Provisions ..	cases	1,925	77,000	54	270	2,822	112,880	36	180
Rice ..	bags	16,489	197,868	14,204	99,430	38	304	28,402	142,010
Salt ..	piculs	—	—	58,691	20,542	—	—	267,567	66,891
Sugar ..	bags	33,963	509,445	106	1,378	8,095	121,425	12	180
Timber ..	pieces	10,175	122,100	66,277	39,766	5,756	75,068	94,831	56,898
Tobacco ..	cases	1,742	52,260	798	15,960	399	11,970	399	11,970
Treasure ..	cases	17	68,000	—	—	69	276,000	—	—
Wine, foreign	cases	2,599	51,980	—	—	2,235	44,700	1	20

APPENDIX VI.

AVERAGE RATE OF WAGES FOR LABOUR.

Predial.—30 tiao to 60 tiao per annum, with board and lodging.

Domestic Servants :

Employed by Chinese.—Male, 30 tiao to 40 tiao per annum, with board and lodging; Female, $2.00 to $7.00 a month, with board and lodging.

Employed by Foreigners.—$8.00 to $20.00 a month, with lodging but not board.

Gardeners :

Employed by Foreigners.—$8.00 to $11.00 a month, with lodging but not board.

Trades, Chinese Workmen : 100 tiao to 300 tiao a year, with board and lodging.

Unskilled Labourers :

Employed by Foreigners.—30 cents to 40 cents per day, without food.

Employed by Chinese.—200 cash to 300 cash a day, with food, or 500 cash to 600 cash a day, without food.

Ordinary Competent Mechanics :—

Blacksmiths and Fitters :

Employed by Foreigners.—$1.00 to $3.00 a day.

Employed by Chinese.—300 cash to 1 tiao a day, and food.

APPENDIX VI.—*Continued.*

Carpenters and Joiners :
  Employed by Foreigners.—70 cents to 80 cents a day.
  Employed by Chinese.—500 cash to 1 tiao a day, and food.

Masons and Bricklayers :
  Employed by Chinese.—300 cash to 500 cash a day, and food

Painters :
  Employed by Chinese.—300 cash to 500 cash a day, and food.

(*Note.*—$1.00 now changes for 1,560 cash ; 1,000 cash is 1 tiao ; $1.00 now changes for 118½ cents ; during 1921 $1=average about Tiao 1.420.)

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920–1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919–1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918–1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920–1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920–1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920–1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920–1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1158.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1922.

(For report for 1921 see No. 1118.)

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No. 1168.

WEIHAIWEI.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1922.*

I. GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

The Territory of Weihaiwei was leased to Great Britain by China by a Convention signed in Peking on 1st July, 1898.

The leased territory is part of the Province of Shantung, and lies in latitude 37.30 North, longitude 122.10 East, and comprises a strip of land 10 miles wide, with a coastline of 72 miles. The Island of Liukung, lying East and West across the bay, is also included in the Territory. This Island is two miles long by three-quarters of a mile wide, and forms two channels East and West. The former channel is 2¾ miles wide, and the latter two-thirds of a mile wide, and give easy access to the bay, which is six miles broad and from three to four miles wide. The Island affords excellent shelter from the sea.

Port Edward, on the mainland, is the only port, and is also the seat of the Government.

2. The total area of the Territory is 288 square miles, and the native population was 154,416 at the census of 1921.

The foreign population is mainly British, and varies from a small number in winter to several hundreds in summer, when visitors arrive from all parts of China in order to enjoy the salubrious climate. In addition, several thousand personnel of the China Squadron spend a few months each summer in the Territory.

II. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

3. *Administration and Development.*—The approaching Rendition of the Territory ,which was decided upon at the Washington Conference, and announced in Government Gazette No. 7 of the 20th March, 1922, made itself seriously felt in every department of the Government. Revenue was not gravely affected, but expenditure was reduced to a minimum. Public Works have been held up, and the general feeling of impending change has made itself felt in every direction.

The question of Rendition and its effects are further dealt with in paragraph 8 below and in other sections of this Report.

(For summary of Administration and Development since 1898 *see* Annual Report 1921, Paragraphs 6 to 10.)

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* For map see Annual Report for 1913, and for fuller particulars Section I in Annual Report for 1921, No. 1118, and for general information "Lion and Dragon in North China," by C. F. Johnston, C.B.E., former District Officer in Weihaiwei.

4. *Changes of Staff.*—Mr. E. V. Carpmael, who was stationed in Weihaiwei some years ago but had retired from the Colonial Service, arrived on 11th February to take up the duties of the new post of Financial Secretary to Government.

Captain W. E. Godwin, who, in addition to his duties as Officer Commanding Detachment of 2/55th Coke's Rifles, F.F., acted as Junior District Officer. He was transferred to Peking on 16th November, and Mr. Carpmael was appointed to act as Junior District Officer in his place.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Judge of the High Court, returned from furlough towards the end of the year.

Inspector Jennings, in charge of the Public Works Department, proceeded to England on furlough in the autumn, preparatory to transfer to Hongkong upon Rendition.

In addition, certain reductions of staff were authorized in view of the approaching Rendition of the Territory. Dr. J. E. Barnes, M.B., Junior Medical Officer, left for the Federated Malay States on 14th October, and the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Self, also left in the same month to take up an appointment in China. For distribution of these officers' duties *see* paragraph 26 below.

5. *Naval.*—The first ship of the China Fleet to arrive at its annual summer sanitorium was His Majesty's Ship "Magnolia," which arrived on 28th April, and on 9th May the Flagship, His Majesty's Ship "Hawkins," with the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Sir Alexander L. Duff, K.C.V.O., K.C.B., on board, reached Weihaiwei. The last ship to leave was His Majesty's Ship "Despatch," which went South in November. The conduct of the men of the Fleet was excellent, as usual.

On 22nd August, Admiral Strauss, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Asiatic Fleet, paid a visit in his yacht, and the Italian gunboat "Sebastian Caboto" called on 18th October.

6. The Indo-China Steam Ship "Koonshing" piled up on the rocks at the South-east end of Liukung Island in the early morning of 2nd November. The efforts of His Majesty's Ship "Despatch" to tow her off were unsuccessful, but the passengers were all taken off under great difficulties by means of cutters from the "Despatch," assisted by the Government Launch "Alexandra." Subsequent efforts to float the stranded vessel having failed, she is being broken up.

7. *Military.*—Captain W. E. Godwin, in command of the Detachment of 2/55th Coke's Rifles, F.F., was relieved by Lieutenant H. E. R. Bateman, F.F., on the 16th of November.

8. *Rendition.*—The Chinese Rendition Commission, which consists of a High Commissioner (Mr. M. T. Liang), two Deputy Commissioners, and about a score of Advisers and Secretaries arrived from Peking on 19th September.

Mr. Bertram Giles, C.M.G., His Majesty's Consul-General at Tsinanfu, who, with His Honour A. P. Blunt, C.M.G., the Officer Administering the Government, and Commander G. F. B. Edward-Collins, Royal Navy, form the British Commission, arrived on

22nd September. The Joint Commission commenced its sittings on 28th September, and, with intervals, continued until the end of the year, up to which date no conclusions had been reached.

There have been no demonstrations for or against Rendition, and no student protests. The Chinese Press on the whole has been very restrained in expressions of opinion. There have been some criticisms and occasional doubts expressed as to Great Britain's good faith in regard to handing back the Territory, and, on one or two occasions, suggestions of a boycott of British goods were thrown out in one or two papers.

It is possible that the larger interests involved in the Rendition of Tsingtao by Japan have overshadowed the Weihaiwei question, but locally it is a correct interpretation of the attitude of the people in general that they are aware of, and have enjoyed, benefits under British rule such as no other place in China has afforded. They fully appreciate the treatment they have received for a quarter of a century, and, as they are, in common with Chinese in most parts of China, essentially parochial in their outlook and entirely devoid of patriotism in the abstract, and as, moreover, they know that conditions in China Proper at present are less conducive to the enjoyment of peace and justice than in the Territory, there is no general desire to return to Chinese control.

9. *Police.*—Discipline has been, on the whole, quite good. The measures adopted last year (Annual Report, 1921, Paragraph 15) have continued to bear fruit. There have only been six cases of breach of discipline in the force in which small fines were necessary, and two cases where a warning was considered adequate. The police have many duties, including boundary and road patrol, reporting wrecks, issuing cart and wheelbarrow licences, serving warrants, suppressing gambling and opium smuggling. They are the eyes and ears of the Government, and one-half of them are divided among nine outposts.

Highway robbery has practically ceased to exist, and life and property are safe within territory limits.

The Annual Musketry practices did not take place during the year, on account of the expected Rendition of the Territory to China.

10. *Gaol.*—There are two gaols in the Territory, one on the Island of Liukung and one in Port Edward, accommodating 70 and 30 respectively. The daily average number in the Island Gaol was 35·86 as compared with 36·02 in 1921. The total number entered was 60 as compared with 123 in 1921.

The Port Edward Gaol is used only for a few short-term prisoners. The prisoners in both gaols were usefully employed on public works, such as road-making, clearing snow, and stone-breaking.

11. *Criminal Cases.*—The figures for 1921 and 1922 are as follows :—

1921.—Cases 479, Suicides 72.
1922. „ 355, „ 51.

The total number of convictions was 1,088, of whom 987 were fined. Of the cases, 85, or nearly 25 per cent., were gambling, and 760 convictions were secured for this offence, of which number 750 were fined and 10 committed. Cases of assault and other offences against the person totalled less than 30.

There were two cases of arson, one of highway robbery, and seventeen of petty theft.

Indecent assaults and breaches of the Chinese Married Women's and Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance only numbered five. Breaches of the Opium Ordinance amounted to 33, there being 43 persons involved. These cases were almost entirely concerned with attempts to smuggle opium into the Territory from Vladivostok and places in Manchuria. One very serious case involved the capture of about 4 cwt. of the drug. Investigations proved it to have come from Vladivostok by steamer, the method being to tie up the opium in watertight bags, which had floats attached and were thrown into the sea and subsequently collected by sampan. In this case the sampan was blown ashore and wrecked. The method of packing in small addressed parcels placed in the bags indicates a large trade conducted upon a well-thought-out plan. The ultimate destination of the captured drug was certainly some place in Chinese Territory.

There was one case of murder dealt with during the year. The body was found near the border, and inquiries indicate the murder to have been committed outside the Territory. The murderers are still at large.

There were 19 cases of breach of the Stamp Ordinance, and 35 convictions secured.

The rest of the Criminal Cases were for minor offences.

On the whole the criminal statistics show a satisfactory state of affairs in the Territory. It is significant that no case of drunkenness appeared in Court.

12. *Civil Cases.*—The numbers are practically the same as for 1921, and are as follows :—

1921, 109 ; 1922, 108.

About 20 per cent. of the Civil Cases were for debt. Family disputes, including adoption, unfilial conduct, and cases arising out of quarrels, numbered 26 per cent. Only two cases were concerned with mismanagement of village funds, and a few individuals sought to recover gambling debts.

Cases in the Civil Court very often illustrate the patriarchal aspect of government among the Chinese. Officials are " Father and Mother of the people."

One case of unfilial conduct was that of two sons who had attempted by threats to deprive their aged parent of that part of his property reserved by him for his own support after having divided the rest among his sons. When questioned in Court why he had not exercised his prerogative as parent and chastised his sons for their greed, he replied that he was not physically strong enough to apply adequate treatment. The submissiveness of his unfilial sons in Court was seized upon with great avidity by the old man, and whilst in the presence of the Magistrate he applied the long overdue persuasion by means of a strap applied to that portion of anatomy adapted by nature. The effects were immediate and have proved lasting. The chastised sons were both over 40 years of age and took their medicine without a murmur. The old man was delighted.

13. *High Court.*—There were no Civil Cases dealt with in the High Court. One Criminal Case was heard by the Officer Administering the Government sitting as Judge of the High Court. The indictment was for arson and theft, and sentences of eighteen and three months were imposed to run concurrently.

III. FINANCE.

14. The financial year in this Territory ends on 31st March, and figures for this year can be given only up to 31st December, 1922.

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Grant-in-Aid.* (showing dollars, and sterling.)	
	$	$	$	£
1918–19 ..	.. 134,543	162,292	23,610	4,000
1919–20 ..	.. 161,726	206,431	31,228	7,900
1920–21 ..	.. 164,973	235,445	129,596	20,000
1921–22 ..	.. 212,464	270,306	61,311	8,000
1921 (1st April to 31st December)	167,570	203,903	43,484	5,800
1922 (1st April to 31st December)	154,643	160,466	nil	nil

Revenue includes $11,031 and $10,072 in 1921 and 1922 respectively on account of the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme*, and Expenditure $38,840 and $18,405 in 1921 and 1922 respectively on account of the same scheme.

It will thus be seen that in the completed portion of the present financial year Revenue has balanced actual Expenditure, and there are prospects that this satisfactory feature will still be shown at the end of the financial year (*i.e.*, 31st March). The feature, however, is due to extraordinary economies exercised in view of the proposed early Rendition of the Territory to China, and is not any true indication of a corresponding improvement in the financial position. The true index of local finances is a healthy

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**See* page 23, 1921 Report.

Revenue. This will be lower than during the Financial Year 1921–22, although it is probable that the Estimate (of $172,918) will be exceeded. In the prevailing uncertainty trade has suffered, and, further, no new sources of Revenue could be introduced.

The estimated Revenue for the Financial Year 1922–23 was $172,918, and the estimated Expenditure $238,063. The very large savings in the latter have been alluded to.

No Grant-In-Aid was required for the year 1922–23, and the financial position of the Territory may be considered satisfactory, since, if it is necessary to continue the administration, it will again be unnecessary to draw on Imperial Funds in order to carry on during the Financial Year 1923–24.

IV. TRADE, ETC.

15. The total volume of trade amounted to 1,520,953 packages, valued at $9,890,115, as compared with 1,411,571 packages and value $10,882,854 respectively for 1921.* This shows an increase in packages of 109,382, but a decrease of $992,739. The excess of Imports over Exports amounts to $1,890,619.

[**Note :—The total volume for 1921 was returned at $11,209,941 (Appendix II. Annual Report, 1921.). Export of Salt (Appendix IV.) $363,430, should read $36,343, making total volume for 1921 $10,882,854.*].

16. The movement of goods is shown in Appendices II. and III.

Bean Cake.—The total Imports were valued at $13,100 by steamer and $79,116 by junk, or $92,216. Exports amounted to $2,040 only, as against $18,858 in 1921. This seems to indicate a certain amount of prosperity as the article is used for manure and shows spending capacity. It is not all absorbed by the Territory ; quantities go over the border.

Candles imported totalled $34,688, an increase of $10,144 over 1921. None were exported.

Cigarettes amounted to $136,920, all imported by steamer except $360 by junk. Exports nil.

Raw Cotton and Raw Yarn were imported to value of $41,610 (by junk $11,130, steamer $30,480) and $1,105,000 (junk $10,540, steamer $1,094,460) respectively, or a total of Raw Cotton and Yarn of $1,146,610 as compared with $1,037,915 in 1921. Exports of these goods amounted to only $23,765 for 1922, and less than $7,000 in 1921. The quality of the yarn is short staple course counts about 20s. It all comes mainly from Shanghai and Japan.

Ground-nuts are by far the most important article of commerce. The total import for the year was 47,265 bags, valued at $519,915, entirely by junks. In 1921 it was 79,141 bags, valued at $632,328. Exports, however, totalled during the year 199,939 bags, valued at $2,199,329, as compared with 257,796 bags, worth $2,062,368, in 1921; less in quantity for 1922, but higher in price. The excess of Export over Import was $1,567,001.

Ground-nut Oil was imported to the value of $814,500 (and $353,465 in 1921) by junk. The export in 1922 was $857,185 (steamer) (and in 1921, $331,691). No ground-nut oil is produced locally, and, with the exception of a small amount retained for local use, Imports and Exports balance.

Flour Imported shows a decrease. The figures were by steamer $88,929, and junk $33,606, a total of $122,535, against $147,477 in 1921. Only $3,196 worth was exported.

Indian Corn Imported was less than $5,000, as compared with $159,010 in 1921.

Kerosine totalled $142,385 imports, of which $86,405 came in steamers and $58,980 by junk. The figures for 1921 were $146,702.

Millet showed an increase of $66,331 imported; 1921 being $29,125, and 1922 $95,456, all of which, except $1,518, came in by junk. There was no export of millet.

Provisions, mostly of foreign origin, totalled $83,650; Imports an increase of $6,380 on 1921.

Rice imported reached the sum of $200,942, as compared with $297,298 in 1921. The actual quantities were 30,693 bags in 1921, as compared with 21,363 in 1922, or one-third less. Increased price of this commodity was the cause of reduced import. All was retained for local consumption.

Salt imported by junk reached 50,020 piculs, as compared with 58,691 in 1921. The exports were 259,348 piculs, an excess of over 200,000 piculs over imports, the balance being made up of old stocks plus local production. Exports 1921 were 148,493 piculs less than during 1922.

Sugar imported (steamer) reached the figure of $323,100, as against $509,445 in 1921. Exports by junk amounted to $170,430, which is about $8,000 less than in 1921.

Chinese Wine imported by junk amounted to $239,224, an increase of $24,384 over 1921, and was all retained for local consumption.

16A. *Shipping.*—There was an increase in steamers calling, the number being 613 against 554 in 1921, the tonnage being 61,000 and 52,000 respectively.

17. *Salt.—See* Annual Report 1921, paragraphs 37–40.

18. *Crops.*—The spring crops were average, but the autumn crops suffered from drought; the average yield for the whole year was somewhat under normal. Prospects for the coming year are, however, excellent.

19. *Land.*—The rise in value referred to in paragraph 43 of the Annual Report for 1921 continues.

20. *Money.*—The rate of interest shows a downward tendency. Copper cash has presented a very difficult problem. The Territory has no coinage and is dependent on Chinese currency

for its circulating medium. The consistent debasement of the copper currency in China has cheapened its silver value, which at par is 100 coppers to the dollar. The rate has reached 190 during the year. Strong measures have been taken to prevent " light " coins from coming in, but, as the Territory has to follow exchanges in China, and as, moreover, the silver dollar is the unit of exchange for the bulk of external trade, and copper the medium of exchange in the Territory, the instability of the latter causes violent fluctuations, and often gives rise to speculations difficult to control, but potentially harmful to trade, particularly—as often happens—when exchange rates in the Territory and outside ports differ greatly.

21. *Industries.*—There have been extensions in the silk filature industry; hair nets and lace-making have remained steady. (*See* Paragraph 41, Annual Report 1921.)

22. *Forestry.*—(*See* Annual Report 1921, Paragraphs 45–46). During the year 164,000 seedlings were dug up and distributed for planting. A scheme for sericulture was opened by private enterprise in buildings loaned by Government. The Head of the school has a large plot of Government land on Liukung Island under mulberry cultivation, where his pupils study conditions. He has distributed several thousands of small mulberry trees.

V. LEGISLATION.

22A. Two Ordinances were introduced during the year, both of which were amending Ordinances.

(1) Amendment of Opium Ordinance providing for fine and imprisonment instead of one or the other, and also providing for fine up to three times the value of the opium seized.

(2) Amendment of Stamp Ordinance.

The prospect of Rendition has affected the introduction of new legislation, as everything else.

VI. EDUCATION.

23. For detailed account *see* Annual Report for 1921, Paragraphs 49 to 55. The only changes are the opening of a number of Country Schools of Primary Grade on modern lines The one at Mengchiachuang with 40 scholars and three teachers is a particularly fine school. The main obstacle to substantial progress on modern lines is lack of trained teachers. The situation is common to every part of China.

VII. VITAL STATISTICS, MEDICAL AND SANITARY.

24. The summer was exceptionally hot, but the rainfall was just above the average. General health conditions among the residents and visiting European population on the mainland was exceptionally good. Apart from three cases of dysentery there were no cases of infectious diseases.

Between 1st May and the 30th of September 493 adults and 106 children visited the Territory. There was one birth and one death. On the island there was a number of cases of septic sore throats, probably of an infectious nature. Inspection of the drainage by outside competent authorities discovered no fault in this direction, and whether the original infection was introduced from other places or not it was impossible to decide. One feature of the septic throat outbreak was that it affected only newcomers to China. The health of the native population was good. During the first and last two months of the year a number of mild cases of influenza were treated.

25. In June, 13 cases of measles were treated as outdoor patients and four cases of enteric fever and three of diphtheria were seen. The number of cases of dysentery and diarrhœa treated was 256 as compared with 350 in 1921.

The total number of attendances at the three Native Hospitals was 22,358, of which 15,525 were new patients and 313 were indoor patients.

In Port Edward the number of resident patients was 207, and outdoor patients 7,946, with a total attendance of 12,420. There were 173 operations, of which 48 were of a major character ; 19 confinements were attended either in hospital or at the homes of the patients.

The number of vaccinations performed was 7,152, the primary successes being 99·1 per cent.

The number of cases treated in the Native Civil Hospital on the Island amounted to 3,260, of which 2,188 were new cases and 38 in-patients.

Vaccinations totalled 37.

The number of persons holding licences to smoke opium was 31, with an average age of 63.

26. *Sanitation.*—(Mainland). An artesian well was sunk during the year in place of six recommended. This leaves the question of a pure water supply practically where it was last year.

The Government lost the services of the Junior Medical Officer and the Sanitary Inspector during the year. Both these officers have done excellent work during the two years they have been in the Territory. They were only allowed to leave owing to the imminence of Rendition. The Sanitary Inspector has made great improvements in sanitary matters.

The duties of the two officers are being carried out by the Senior Medical Officer and Senior Police Inspector. (*See* also Annual Report 1921.)

VIII. CLIMATE.

27. The highest barometrical reading obtained was 30·610 on 20th November, and the lowest 29·518 on 3rd July, the monthly average range being ·559.

The highest temperature was 99° Fahrenheit and the lowest 10° Fahrenheit. The highest in 1921 was 92°, and in 1920, 95°.

The highest mean temperatures were 80, 86, and 86 in June, July, and August respectively. In 1921 they were 77, 82, and 84. Rain or snow fell on 78 days, with a total of 24·84 inches, being 2·83 inches above the average of the previous 21 years. The snowfall in November was 3 feet, the deepest within the memory of any inhabitant.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS, ROADS, TELEPHONES, TELEGRAPHS AND POSTS.

28. Communications, Roads, Telephones and Telegraphs. (*See* Annual Report 1921, Paragraphs 64 to 67.)

The heaviest fall of snow within living memory occurred in November, the depth being over 3 feet. The snow remained, with intervals of thaw, for between two and three months, the result being that the roads suffered excessively. This was the case especially, as, owing to deep snow, the annual arrival of ground-nuts was crowded into an abnormally short time during which the roads could be used, and the intensive traffic cut up the roads. In addition, there was a large increase in the number of carts throughout the year, with corresponding increase in road wear and tear. (On development of carts *see* Annual Report 1921, Paragraph 10.)

29. *Posts.*—The mails despatched amounted to 826 bags, containing 5,023 registered articles and 4,092 parcels, besides ordinary correspondence.

In addition, 207 bags for the Navy and 76 bags for the Detachment of 2/55th Coke's Rifles were handled.

Since the closing of the British Post Offices in China, closed mails have been forwarded direct for the General Post Office, London.

Mails received from London, Hongkong, etc., amounted to 1,033 bags and two covers, and in addition to ordinary mail matter contained 1,525 registered articles, 951 registered parcels, and 425 enclosed bags for the Government services.

Mails were received on 65 days and despatched on 91 days. Of the inward mails the quickest from London took 30 days and the slowest 49 days.

The total receipts amounted to $40,585·89, as compared with $40,304·53 in 1921, and $22,896·16 in 1920. The increases during the year as compared with 1921 were $2,745·06 in postage stamps, and decreases of $1,105·08 and $1,357·90 in Imperial and local postal notes, respectively.

X. PUBLIC WORKS.

30. The Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme referred to in the Annual Report for 1921, Paragraph 69, was completed during the year and formally opened on 31st July. The total cost was

$49,300, derived from shipping dues. The scheme affords excellent landing and loading facilities for junks, which can moor close to the new wharf. There are also storage sheds for valuable cargo, and yard for ordinary cargo in bulk. The go-downs and wharf should prove useful to merchants and shippers.

HARDY JOWETT,
Senior District Officer.

Government Offices,
Port Edward, Weihaiwei,
9th April, 1923.

APPENDIX I.

Table of Total Volume and Value of Trade.

	1921.		1922.	
	Packages.	$	Packages.	$
Imports by Steamers ..	190,875	3,395,322	157,144	3,237,322
Imports by Junks ..	632,505	2,553,228	629,435	2,653,045
Total Imports ..	823,380	5,948,550	786,579	5,890,367
Exports by Steamers ..	495,957	4,404,903	679,278	3,577,430
Exports by Junks ..	92,234	529,401	55,096	422,318
Total Exports ..	588,191	5,261,391	734,374	3,999,748
Total Trade ..	1,411,571	10,882,854	1,520,953	9,890,115

APPENDIX II.

Comparative Table of Principal Exports.

	Classifier of Quantity.	1921.				1922.			
		Steamers.		Junks.		Steamers.		Junks.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			$		$		$		$
Bean cakes ..	pieces	—	—	9,429	18,858	—	—	1,020	2,040
Bean oil ..	barrels	—	—	995	9,950	250	2.500	1,534	15,340
Bean paste ..	tins	171	855	1,783	8,915	361	1,805	2.233	11.165
Casks ..		595	14,775	—	—	391	9.775	—	—
Cotton yarn	bales	—	—	100	3,550	57	9,690	76	12,920
Cotton, raw ..	bales	7	245	85	2,875	—	—	33	1,155
Eggs ..	crates	7,082	35,410	681	3,405	3,279	16,395	140	700
Ground-nut kernels,	bags	257,796	2,062,368	794	6,352	199,939	2,199,329	249	2,739
Ground-nut oil	tins	94,769	331,691	1,012	3,542	171,437	857,185	668	3,340
Ground-nuts in Shells	bags	22,594	79,072	120	420	14,202	49,707	—	—
Fish—Salt and dried.	baskets	4,784	38,272	6,434	51,478	6,840	68,400	4,028	40,280
Leather ..	bundles	1	70	70	11,963	1	70	130	9,100
Medicine ..	boxes	80	4,000	578	28,900	222	11,100	276	773
Old iron ..	piculs	—	—	3,082	15,143	—	—	3,288	16,440
Paper ..	bales	32	96	1,867	7,468	53	212	1,790	7,160
Sasson ..	boxes	1,036	31,080	—	—	1,265	63,250	—	—
Salt ..	piculs	90,855	36,343	46	16	259,348	103,739	120	48
Sugar ..	bags	135	1,755	16,735	251,025	—	—	13,110	170,430
Timber ..	pieces	12	144	31,509	18,905	405	4.860	3.643	2,188

APPENDIX III.

Comparative Table of Principal Imports.

	Classifier of Quantity.	1921.				1922.			
		Steamers.		Junks.		Steamers.		Junks.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			$		$		$		$
Beans ..	bags	—	—	8,865	31,028	100	640	6,047	24,188
Bean cakes ..	pieces	4,563	11,407	39,328	78,476	5,240	13,100	39,558	79,116
Bean oil ..	tins	—	—	25,590	255,900	500	5,000	1,322	13,220
Candles ..	cases	6,089	24,356	47	188	8,048	32,192	629	2,496
Cement ..	casks	3,710	29,680	96	576	280	2,240	193	1,158
Cigarettes ..	cases	788	95,460	6	720	1,138	136,560	3	360
Coal ..	tons	11,529	149,875	1,281	19,221	3,323	43,199	1,268	19,011
Chinese wine	jars	2,632	3,158	26,730	213,840	1,401	1,681	29,903	239,224
Coin copper..	bags	—	—	806	56,420	—	—	76	5,320
Cotton, raw..	bales	3,977	119,310	197	6,895	1,016	30,480	318	11,130
Cotton yarn	bales	5,363	911,710	—	—	6,438	1,094,460	62	10,540
Corn, Indian	bags	1	4	53,003	159,010	1,232	4,928	—	—
Fish—Salt	baskets	—	—	10,753	86,027	318	3,189	11,350	113,498
Flour ..	bags	29,544	88,632	19,615	58,845	29,643	88,929	11,202	33,606
Ground-nut kernels.	bags	480	3,840	79,041	632,328	—	—	47,265	519,915
Ground-nut oil	tins	—	—	100,990	353,465	—	—	162,900	814,500
Gunny Bags	bales	2,138	106,900	238	9,520	1,550	77,500	156	6,220
Kerosene ..	cases	15,149	95,438	8,544	51,264	13,715	86,405	9,330	55,980
Kaoliang ..	piculs	—	—	3,124	9,373	—	—	4,042	12,126
Matches ..	cases	62	310	2,256	14,100	588	2,940	826	4,956
Millet ..	bags	—	—	7,281	29,125	253	1,518	23,485	93,938
Paper ..	bales	14,269	57,076	9,981	39,924	11,054	44,216	10,835	43,340
Piece Goods	bales	1,714	342,800	61	12,300	1,068	213,600	71	14,200
Provisions ..	cases	1,925	77,000	54	270	2,071	82,840	181	1,810
Rice ..	bags	16,489	197,868	14,204	99,430	17,135	171,350	4,228	29,592
Salt ..	piculs	—	—	58,691	20,542	—	—	50,020	20,082
Sugar ..	bags	33,963	509,445	106	1,378	21,540	323,100	35	465
Timber ..	pieces	10,175	122,100	66,277	39,766	2,072	24,869	92,711	55,663
Tobacco ..	cases	1,742	52,260	798	15,960	1,280	18,720	618	12,336
Treasure ..	cases	17	68,000	—	—	2	71,410	—	—
Wine, foreign	cases	2,599	51,980	—	—	1,960	39,200	—	—

Colonial Reports, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	,,
1125	Zanzibar	,,
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1127	Gibraltar	,,
1128	St. Vincent	,,
1129	St. Helena	,,
1130	Fiji	,,
1131	Basutoland	1921–1922
1132	Bermuda	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921–1922
1134	Barbados	,,
1135	Trinidad	1921
1136	British Honduras	,,
1137	Ceylon	,,
1138	Swaziland	,,
1139	Hongkong	,,
1140	Straits Settlements	,,
1141	St. Lucia	,,
1142	Ashanti	,,
1143	Jamaica	,,
1144	Falkland Islands	1920
1145	Bahamas	1921–1922
1146	Seychelles	1921
1147	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
1148	British Solomon Islands Protectorate	1921–1922
1149	Mauritius	1921
1150	Sierra Leone	,,
1151	Uganda	,,
1152	Somaliland	,,
1153	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	April–Dec., ,,
1154	Gold Coast	,,
1155	Nigeria	1922
1156	Nyasaland	1921
1157	Falkland Islands	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject,*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1198.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1923.

(For report for 1922 see No. 1158.)

LONDON:
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1924

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No. 1198.

WEIHAIWEI.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1923.

I. FINANCE.

The financial year in this Territory ends on 31st March, 1924, and it is therefore only possible to give the figures of the year 1923–24 for the period from 1st April to 31st December, 1923.

The following table shows the financial position during the past four years :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Grant-in-Aid.* (showing dollars, and sterling.)	
	$	$	$	£
1919-20	161,726	206,431	31,228	7,900
1920–21	164,973	235,445	129,596	20,000
1921–22	212,464	270,306	61,311	8,000
1922–23	195.946	203,741	nil	nil
1922 (1st April to 31st December)	154,643	160,466	nil	nil
1923 (1st April to 31st December)	171,915	156,383	nil	nil

Revenue includes the sums of $10,072 and $12,010 for 1st April to 31st December, 1922 and 1923, respectively, on account of the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme, and expenditure those of $18,405 and $4,429 in 1922 and 1923, respectively, on account of the same scheme.

It will be seen that the revenue collected is in excess of that for the same period of 1922 and that, although the expenditure is slightly higher in comparison, a surplus of revenue over expenditure is shown.

The revenue collected during the calendar year 1923 amounted to $198,468, as compared with $187,034 in the year 1922. A further sum of $14,749 was collected in connection with the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme.

The estimated revenue for the Financial Year 1923–24 was $161,314, excluding the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme, a figure that has nearly been attained during the first nine months of the year mainly by reason of an exceptionally good year for the crops.

The estimated expenditure for the Financial Year 1923–24 was $203,633, a figure it is hoped to reduce by about $10,000, owing to the very strict economies exercised during the year in view of the proposed rendition of the Territory to China.

The financial position of the Territory may be therefore considered satisfactory, but it cannot be taken as a fair indication of its normal finances, for, should the question of rendition be not settled before the end of the present financial year, considerable expenditure must be incurred to raise the staff, now reduced to a bare minimum, to normal strength and to provide for the carrying out of Public Works necessary during the coming year.

No Grant-in-Aid from Imperial funds has been necessary during the past two years, and it is estimated that, even after provision has been made for the additional expenditure above indicated, it will be unnecessary to draw on Imperial funds during the Financial Year 1924–25.

Currency.—A serious shortage of silver dollars was experienced in autumn and local shop notes went to a discount, which still continues. The copper subsidiary coinage depreciated to 200 to the dollar during the year.

II. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

RETROCESSION.

That retrocession was unaccomplished last year is in no way attributable to lack of willingness or good faith on the part of His Majesty's Government.

The Anglo-Chinese Commission, appointed in September, 1922, "to study the question locally and make the necessary recommendations" to their respective Governments, sat at Weihaiwei from September, 1922, to January 7th, 1923, when the Chinese delegates, accompanied by the Senior British delegate, returned to Peking. Considerable progress had been by this time made in the main outlines of the retrocession agreement by the delegates, who had throughout their consultations remained in close touch with their Governments, and it was hoped that an agreement satisfactory to both countries would be speedily reached. At the resumption of negotiations at Peking on 16th March, 1923, however, an entirely new set of proposals drafted by the Pacific Conference Committee, a body including members of all Chinese Government departments that had been formed to deal with matters arising out of the Washington Conference, was presented by the Chinese delegates. These proposals, which completely ignored the many concessions made by the British Government, were found to be unsatisfactory by the British delegates, and finally, on 31st May, 1923, after repeated and prolonged discussions and further concessions made by His Majesty's Government, the British and Chinese delegates unanimously adopted a draft agreement for submission to their respective Governments. This draft agreement His Majesty's Minister at Peking was, in August, 1923, authorised to sign on behalf of His Majesty's Government and formal notice to that effect was duly given to the Chinese Government. The latter, however, submitted a Memorandum of desired modifications and suggested that a date should be fixed for their

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consideration. These modifications, which are of so fundamental a nature as to necessitate the reopening of negotiations from the very beginning, have been transmitted to London and are at present under consideration by His Majesty's Government.

III. CHANGES OF STAFF.

The belief that retrocession must inevitably occur during the course of the past year occasioned many changes in the Government staff as a number of officers retired from the service and it became necessary to find new men to fill their places. The following changes have occurred :—

APPOINTMENTS.

Captain Ernest Stevenson, O.B.E., R.N. (retired) was appointed Financial Secretary to Government on 14th May, and Acting Junior District Officer on 6th July.

Surgeon Commander A. McCloy, M.B., R.N., was appointed Medical Officer of Health for the Island of Liukung on 13th February.

Mr. M. C. Cooper, M.C., M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(London), was appointed Junior Medical Officer on 7th August, and Senior Medical Officer on 1st October.

Mr. A. A. L. Tuson, of His Majesty's Consular Service in China, was appointed Acting Junior District Officer on 1st October.

Mr. S. Wyatt-Smith, of His Majesty's Consular Service in China, was appointed Acting Senior District Officer on 26th October.

Mr. W. Russell Brown, His Majesty's Consul in China, was appointed Senior District Officer and Officer Administering the Government on 4th November.

RETIREMENTS AND TRANSFERS.

Mr. E. V. Carpmael, Junior District Officer, retired on 6th July.

Dr. W. M. Muat, C.B.E., Senior Medical Officer, retired on 1st October.

Captain E. Stevenson, O.B.E., R.N. (retired), Junior District Officer, retired on 1st October.

Mr. H. Jowett, Senior District Officer, retired on 26th October

Mr. Vice-Consul A. P. Blunt, C.M.G., Officer Administering the Government, left the Territory on home leave on 4th November in His Majesty's Ship " Carlisle."

IV. NAVAL.

His Majesty's Fleet, under the command of Admiral Sir A. C. Levesen, K.C.B., visited Weihaiwei during the summer and remained at Port Edward for some months.

Admiral Anderson, Commander-in-Chief of the American fleet, arrived on August 28th in the United States Ship, " General Alva," on a brief visit.

V. MILITARY.

The detachment of the 2/55th Coke's Rifles (F.F.), under the command of Captain Bateman, was on 1st December, 1923, relieved by a detachment of the Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire) under the command of Lieutenant M. Elrington, M.C. The outgoing detachment fully maintained the excellent reputation of its predecessors, and during the year no complaint of any nature was made by the inhabitants of the Territory. The presence of British troops and the periodic tours made throughout the country under Colonial jurisdiction to advertise the existence of the force have undoubtedly preserved this Territory from the inroads of armed brigands and have saved the inhabitants from the terrors of murder, kidnapping, and pillage that are prevalent on such a wholesale scale outside the borders of the Territory.

VI. POLICE.

The strength of the police force was 122 all ranks under the command of three British Inspectors, and the men were distributed as follows :—

	Detectives.	*N.C.O's.*	*Warders.*	*P.C.*	*Total.*
Port Edward ..	2	4	2	49	57
Liukung Island ..	—	2	5	8	15
Territory	—	9	—	41	50

Of the three British Inspectors one is stationed on Liukung Island in charge of the Island police and two, the officers in charge of the Port Edward and Territory police respectively, are stationed at headquarters in Port Edward. The police posts in the Territory, now ten in number, an extra post having been during the year established at Yao-Yao to check opium smuggling over a lonely stretch of coast line, were visited as frequently as circumstances permitted, and the men were invariably found to be at their posts and to have kept their quarters and equipment in good order. Closer supervision and more frequent inspections are urgently needed to maintain the discipline of the force and to protect the public against possible abuse of office, but this, although highly desirable, is an impossibility as the staff is under strength and the remaining inspectors are further required to discharge the duties of other government posts left vacant for reasons of economy.

During the year twenty-one non-commissioned officers and men were transferred to the Hongkong Police Force, four constables, one warder and one detective resigned, one police constable died as the result of a bicycle accident, and one was discharged for drunkenness on duty. This unusual depletion of the ranks at first occasioned some loss of efficiency, as the exigencies of the service gave no opportunity for the effective training of recruits before they were sent on duty, but despite this drawback the police have, on the whole, carried out their duties in a satisfactory manner.

Musketry practice was carried out during the year on the Island range, which was courteously placed at the disposal of the police by His Majesty's Naval authorities, and the men were successfully put through a special course designed for them by Captain Quianlan, R.M.L.I., Instructor of Musketry at Hongkong.

Should the retrocession of Weihaiwei to China not occur before the end of the financial year 1923–24 it will be necessary to increase the number of police in order to provide effective patrols for the business quarter of Port Edward, which is expanding with great rapidity. Several thefts and attempts at housebreaking have already occurred in this locality, and further police protection must be afforded to the shopkeepers and residents.

VII. JUDICIAL.

Civil Suits.—The duties of the Senior District Officer are mainly confined to the hearing of civil suits, in trying which he exercises the delegated powers of the High Court. During 1923 the number of civil cases brought before the Court was 121, an increase of 13 as compared with 1922, but, of the total, 39 cases were ultimately withdrawn and settled out of Court. That more cases were not withdrawn is in part attributable to the enhanced cost of living which renders the provision of the feasts that form part and parcel of every Chinese arbitration a more expensive matter each year and consequently drives the parties to any dispute into the Court as the cheaper means of settling their differences. For some two months during the spring the Senior District Officer held his Court at Wen Ch'uan T'ang, a market town in close proximity to those villages in the Territory whose inhabitants appear, in the experience of the Government, to be possessed of an exceptionally litigious spirit, but only thirteen cases were heard, as the farmers appeared at the time in question to be too actively engaged in agricultural work to spare time to appear in Court.

An analysis of cases brought before the Court during the year shows that the majority were disputes of right in connection with land, houses, graveyards, etc., while of the remainder the questions at issue were, apart from debt, disagreements arising out of marriage and adoptions, the latter being a fruitful source of litigation everywhere in China. On the whole, however, the number of cases brought before the Court cannot be considered excessive in view of the fact that the population of the Territory is now estimated at approximately 160,000 souls.

Three civil cases, being rehearings of cases brought before the Senior Magistrate's Court, were heard in the High Court, and in each case the decision of the lower Court was upheld.

Criminal Cases.—During the year 452 criminal cases, 61 of which were suicides, were brought before the Junior District Officer's Court, as compared with 355 cases and 51 suicides in the preceding year. The total number of persons convicted was 724, of whom 631 were sentenced to the payment of fines.

Gambling and offences in connection with opium, vices to which the average Chinese is peculiarly addicted, were responsible for 93 and 30 cases, the number of convictions for breaches of the Gambling and Opium Ordinances being 356 and 39, respectively There were 13 breaches of the Stamp Ordinance, 3 cases of robbery, 19 of housebreaking, 1 of forgery and 21 of larceny. With the exception of one armed robbery the Territory was free from serious crime, despite the fact that brigandage and kidnapping on an extensive scale were prevalent throughout the remainder of the Province of Shantung.

An inquest on the body of an unknown man discovered dead in the Territory disclosed the fact that his death was due to poisoning by arsenic, but no clue to the identity or the circumstance of the death of the deceased has yet come to light.

The cases of robbery, forgery and housebreaking alluded to above were tried by the Officer Administering the Government sitting as Judge of the High Court.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.—No births or marriages, but two deaths have been registered during the year 1923. Registration is compulsory on non-Chinese (the two deaths were of Europeans) but optional to Chinese, who practically never avail themselves thereof.

VIII. EDUCATION.

Chinese " Popular " Education.

The " Popular " education movement designed to teach one thousand everyday characters to Chinese illiterates of adult age which has of late achieved a great measure of success in North China was, in October, 1923, introduced into the Territory, where 20 night schools attended by men of 18 years and upwards are now established. The teaching, which is given in a simple and effective manner, has appealed to, and excited the interest of, " the man in the street," and encouraged by the friendly reception of their efforts the promoters of the movement hope to establish in the near future schools on similar lines for women. The low standard of education prevailing in the Territory, evidenced by the official Census of 1921, which revealed the fact that of the Chinese subject to British jurisdiction 83 per cent. of the male population were entirely illiterate and, further, that the female population were, as regards education, in an even more deplorable condition, renders the new educational movement highly worthy of official support in order that the sole reproach—that of neglect of education—made against the British administration, by the Chinese of the Territory, may, even though it be at the eleventh hour, be removed in some measure.

European.

The uncertainty of the future position of Weihaiwei after transfer from British to Chinese jurisdiction has compelled Mr. Beer, the principal and proprietor, to close the Preparatory School for European Boys in Port Edward known as the Weihaiwei School. Mr. Beer's decision is much to be regretted in that the closing of this school removes one of the few purely British educational institutions in China, and the loss will be keenly felt by the British communities existing in the Treaty Ports of China. It is understood that Mr. Beer will in future confine his activities to the coaching of a few small boys.

Government School (Chinese boys).

Enrolments 117, of whom 65 paid fees. The result of the examination in January was satisfactory, only two or three boys in each of the four classes failing to secure 50 per cent.

Anglican Mission School (Chinese boys).

Enrolments 120, of whom 30 were boarders. If funds permit the Mission hope to build an assembly hall this year or next.

Plymouth Brethren Mission School (Chinese girls).

Average attendance 53, of whom 43 are boarders. Average percentage in examination 66 per cent.

Hsu Te School (Chinese girls).

Enrolment 43. Classes are held in a barrack block lent by the Government.

IX. LEGISLATION.

Two ordinances were promulgated during the year, of which one regulated the practice of Western Medicine and the other Dentistry.

The various harbour, anchorage and rowing-boat regulations were amended and consolidated.

X. AGRICULTURE.

The reports of the crops harvested during the year were satisfactory, with the exception of that of beans, which was again below the average. The export crops, wheat and groundnuts, were good, as were also those of millet and sweet potatoes, which mainly constitute the foodstuffs of the territorial population.

SALT PRODUCTION.

The number of salt pans in the Territory is 310, covering an area of over 4,594 mou, being an increase during the year of 80·75 mou.

The revenue collected amounted to $871·50 ($440·13 for Registration fees and $431·37 for Production Fees).

On the 13th August, 1923, nearly every salt pan was ruined by an abnormally high tide. About 2,420,000 catties of salt were washed away, the loss being estimated at $11,132, to which must be added $13,550, cost of repairing the pans. The total damage was hence about $25,000. When, in 1921, the pans were severely damaged by a violent typhoon, the production fees were remitted the following year.

XI. SHIPPING.

The total number of steamships that called at Port Edward was 783, of 797,396 tons, as compared with 613, of 610,024 tons, in 1922, being an increase of 170 in number and 187,372 in tonnage. The number of British steamships that entered the port was 457.

Inward bound junks numbered 1,856, and outward 624.

XII. TRADE.

The total value of trade for the year amounted to 2,264,688 packages, valued at $12,864,040, an increase of 743,735 packages and $2,972,925 over 1,520,953 packages and $9,890,155, the figures of the preceding year. The excess of imports over exports amounted to $2,921,764. (For Table of Total Volume and Value of Trade see Appendix I.).

The movement of goods is shown in Appendices II and III.

Bean Cake.—Imports $130,515 ; exports $8,621 ; net import $121,894, as compared with $90,176 in 1922.

Candles.—Imports $24,396, as compared with $34,688 in 1922. Exports nil.

Cigarettes.—Imports $242,280, as compared with $136,920 in 1922. Exports nil.

Raw Cotton and Yarn.—Imports $1,372,705 ; exports $52,970 ; net import $1,319,735, as compared with $1,122,845 in 1922.

Groundnuts. (*Kernels*)—Exports $2,817,144 ; imports $568,986 ; net export $2,248,158, as compared with $1,567,001 in 1922.

Groundnut Oil.—Exports $847,400 ; imports $787,140 ; net export $60,260, as compared with $41,685 in 1922.

Fish.—Imports $302,966 ; export $199,496 ; net import $103,470.

Flour.—Imports $398,404 ; exports $11,622 ; net import $386,782, as compared with $119,339 in 1922.

Maize.—Imports $172,855 ; exports $5,828 ; net import $167,027.

Millet.—Imports $43,673 ; exports $3,472 ; net import $40,201.

Kerosene.—Imports $152,297 ; exports $6,012 ; net import $146,285.

Provisions.—Imports $99,040, as compared with $83,650 in 1922.

Rice.—Imports $210,605; exports $16,530; net import $194,075.

Salt.—Imports $16,559; exports $398,657; net export $382,098, as compared with $83,785 in 1922.

Sugar.—Imports $282,581; exports $125,840; net import $156,741.

Timber.—Imports $143,553; exports $20,777; net import $122,776.

Chinese Wine.—Imports $220,638; exports nil.

XIII. MEDICAL AND SANITARY.

The general health of both the resident and visiting population of this Territory has maintained the same high level attained in the previous years. Only two deaths were recorded during the year, one of which was due to dysentery. Apart from several mild cases of the latter disease, one case of measles, and one of diphtheria, no other infectious disease was reported. During the holiday season approximately 480 adults and 136 children visited Weihaiwei.

The general health of the native population, as far as may be judged from the number of known cases of infectious disease, was good. Only 212 cases of dysentery or diarrhoea were treated, as compared with 256 last year and 350 in 1921. A few endemic cases of diphtheria, three cases of cholera, and a mild epidemic of mumps were reported.

There are at present three small hospitals in the Territory for the treatment of natives. At these there was a total attendance of 20,489 persons, of whom 14,898 were new cases and 278 were treated as in-patients. These figures show a decrease on those of last year, chiefly accounted for by a diminished attendance at the two subsidiary hospitals.

At Port Edward Hospital the number of in-patients was 239, an increase of 32 on last year, while a total of 7,910 persons were treated in the out-patient department. 169 operations were performed, 76 being done under general anaesthesia: 20 obstetrical cases were attended, most of these necessitating visits to the patients' homes.

In connection with this hospital a kitchen has been instituted, and all in-patients now receive their food from this kitchen, in return for which they pay a small fee which has been designed to cover the cost of the scheme.

A proposal for the substitution of hospital beds for some of the kangs at present in use and for the provision of at least one trained Chinese nurse was made last October. It is considered that, in the event of the continued occupation of this Territory, some such scheme is necessary, and that it would increase the efficiency and enlarge the scope of the hospital.

No case of medico-legal interest occurred during the year except one in which post-mortem findings proved death to be due to arsenical poisoning.

The bacteriological and hygiene laboratory is fully equipped with the necessary drugs and instruments for all the ordinary examinations required, except the Wassermann test. It has recently been restocked with cultures of the usual organisms.

SANITATION.

The posts of Junior Medical Officer and of Sanitary Inspector which fell vacant in 1922 were, for reasons of economy, left unfilled during the past year, and the sanitary condition of Port Edward has in consequence steadily deteriorated. The Inspector of the Port Police charged with the supervision of sanitation in addition to the performance of his own duties has done all that was humanly possible to keep the Port Edward area in a satisfactory condition. Abuses of many kinds have undoubtedly crept in, as inspections of cattle, bakeries, dairies, houses of Chinese and foreign residents, drains, the slaughter-house and the market, etc., could be made only at irregular intervals, and an outbreak of sickness in the summer months, when the accommodation of the Port is taxed to its utmost by the influx of several hundred foreign visitors, appears only too possible. That no prosecution for nuisances occurred during the past year in no way indicates that the sanitation of the port is in a satisfactory condition, and should the retrocession of the Territory be delayed the appointment of a Sanitary Inspector is of first importance in the interests of public health.

XIV. CLIMATE.

The climatic conditions during the past year were much as usual. On the whole the summer was a cooler and wetter one than last year. The highest and lowest temperatures recorded were 94° F. in August and 10° F. in January. The wettest months were April, July and August, with a rainfall of 2·28 inches, 4·38 inches and 11·06 inches, respectively. The total rainfall for the year was 25·78 inches, being 2·36 inches above the average for the past twenty-two years.

W. RUSSELL BROWN,
Officer Administering the Government.

Government House,
Weihaiwei,
March 14th, 1924.

APPENDIX I.

Table of Total Volume and Value of Trade.

	1922.		1923.	
	Packages.	$	Packages.	$
Imports by Steamers ..	157,144	3,237,322	373,136	4,887,087
Imports by Junks ..	629,435	2,653,045	629,604	3,005,815
Total Imports ..	786,579	5,890,367	1,002,740	7,892,902
Exports by Steamers ..	679,278	3,577,430	1,184,465	4,552,881
Exports by Junks ..	55,096	422,318	77,483	418,257
Total Exports ..	734,374	3,999,748	1,261,948	4,971,138
Total Trade ..	1,520,953	9,890,115	2,264,688	12,864,040

Note. (1)	Total Steamer Trade ..	1,557,601	$9,439,968
	Total Junk Trade ..	707,087	$3,424,072
(2)	Excess of imports over exports	—	$2,921,764

APPENDIX II.

Comparative Table of Principal Imports.

	Classifier of Quantity.	1922.				1923.			
		Steamers.		Junks.		Steamers.		Junks.	
		Quantity.	Value. $	Quantity.	Value. $	Quantity.	Value. $	Quantity.	Value. $
Beans ..	Bags	100	640	6,047	24,188	330	1,320	10,427	41,708
Bean Cakes	Pieces	5,240	13,100	39,558	79,116	33,973	61,151	38,536	69,364
Bean Oil ..	Tins	500	5,000	1,322	13,220	50	500	4,230	42,300
Candles ..	Cases	8,048	32,192	629	2,496	5,413	21,652	686	2,744
Cement ..	Casks	280	2,240	193	1,158	1,938	11,628	19	114
Cigarettes	Cases	1,138	136,560	3	360	2,003	240,360	16	1,920
Coal ..	Tons	3,323	43,199	1,268	19,011	6,749	101,235	2,157	32,361
Cotton, Raw and Yarn.	Bales	7,454	1,124,940	380	21,670	8,891	1,344,880	795	27,825
Cocoons ..	Bales	—	—	—	—	102	20,400	924	184,800
Dollars, Silver.	Cases	2	71,410	—	—	42	168,000	—	—
Dyes ..	Casks	—	—	—	—	1,061	37,135	88	880
Explosives	Cases	—	—	—	—	1,881	75,240	—	—
Fish, Salt & Dried.	Baskets	318	3,180	11,350	113,498	937	9,370	29,359	293,596
Flour ..	Bags	29,643	88,929	11,202	33,606	128,545	372,780	8,836	25,624
Groundnuts	Bags	—	—	—	—	50	178	4,523	15,830
Groundnut Kernels.	Bags	—	—	47,265	519,915	—	—	51,726	568,986
Groundnut Oil.	Tins	—	—	162,900	814,500	—	—	157,428	787,140
Gunny Bags	Bales	1,550	77,500	156	6,220	1,854	74,160	66	2,640
Hemp ..	Bales	—	—	—	—	2,026	20,260	1,708	17,080
Iron, Sheets	Pieces	—	—	—	—	626	81,380	—	—
Iron, Angles	Pieces	—	—	—	—	295	59,000	—	—
Kaoliang ..	Bags	—	—	4,042	12,126	4,710	14,130	5,391	16,175
Kerosene Oil	Cases	13,715	86,405	9,330	55,980	23,979	107,905	9,865	44,392
Maize ..	Bags	1,232	4,928	—	—	4,509	22,545	50,103	150,310
Matches ..	Cases	588	2,940	826	4,956	1,407	8,442	1,292	7,752
Medicines ..	Cases	—	—	—	—	354	17,700	407	20,350
Millet ..	Bags	253	1,518	23,485	93,938	653	2,612	10,265	41,061
Paper ..	Cases	11,054	44,216	10,835	43,340	14,982	59,928	7,854	31,416
Provisions..	Cases	2,071	82,840	181	1,810	2,476	99,040	—	—
Piece Goods	Packages	1,068	213,600	71	14,200	3,207	641,400	48	9,600
Rice ..	Bags	17,135	171,350	4,228	29,592	28,208	197,456	1,877	13,139
Salt ..	Piculs	—	—	50,020	20,082	—	—	30,109	16,559
Silk & Satin	Cases	—	—	—	—	172	68,800	—	—
Soap ..	Cases	—	—	—	—	2,272	9,088	39	156
Sugar ..	Bags	21,540	323,100	35	465	21,646	281,398	91	1,183
Timber ..	Pieces	2,072	24,869	92,711	55,663	136,311	61,207	99,672	82,346
Tobacco ..	Cases	1,280	18,720	618	12,336	4,750	42,470	327	6,540
Wine, Chinese	Jars	1,401	1,681	29,903	239,224	2,156	4,312	27,042	216,326
Wine, Foreign	Cases	1,960	39,200	—	—	2,145	42,900	—	—

APPENDIX III.

Comparative Table of Principal Exports.

	Classifier of Quantity.	1922.				1923.			
		Steamers.		Junks.		Steamers.		Junks.	
		Quantity.	Value. $	Quantity.	Value. $	Quantity.	Value. $	Quantity.	Value. $
Beans ..	**Bags**	—	—	—	—	223	892	1,394	5,577
Bean Cakes	**Pieces**	—	—	1,020	2,040	2,195	3,851	2,650	4,770
Bean Oil ..	**Barrels**	250	2,500	1,534	15,340	206	2,060	292	2,920
Bean Paste	**Tins**	361	1,805	2,233	11,165	21	105	2,002	10,010
Cotton, Raw and Yarn.	**Bales**	57	9,690	109	14,075	1,012	35,420	108	17,550
Candy ..	**Bags**	—	—	—	—	985	14,755	—	—
Eggs ..	**Crates**	3,279	16,395	140	700	2,448	17,136	97	679
Fish, Salt & Dried.	**Baskets**	6,840	68,400	4,028	40,280	15,551	155,510	4,398	43,988
Flour ..	**Bags**	—	—	—	—	681	2,064	3,296	9,558
Groundnuts	**Bags**	14,202	49,707	—	—	2,265	7,927	—	—
Groundnut Kernels.	**Bags**	199,939	2,199,329	249	2,739	255,859	2,814,449	245	2,695
Groundnut Oil.	**Tins**	171,437	857,185	668	3,340	169,460	847,300	20	100
Iron, Old ..	**Piculs**	—	—	3,288	16,440	98	490	5,624	28,122
Kaoliang ..	**Bags**	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,900	8,702
Kerosene Oil	**Cases**	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,336	6,012
Maize ..	**Bags**	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,942	5,828
Millet, ..	**Bags**	--	—	—	—	—	—	868	3,472
Medicines ..	**Cases**	222	11,100	276	773	263	13,150	237	11,850
Rice ..	**Bags**	—	—	—	—	121	847	2,240	15,688
Salt ..	**Piculs**	259,348	103,739	120	48	724,530	398,491	302	166
Sugar ..	**Bags**	—	—	13,110	170,430	31	403	9,649	125,437
Sasson .	**Boxes**	1,265	63,250	—	—	859	42,950	—	—
Timber	**Pieces .**	405	4,860	3,643	2,188	—	—	[24,943	20,777

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

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No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1165	**Sierra Leone**	**1922**
1166	**Trinidad and Tobago**	,,
1167	**Bermuda**	,,
1168	**Grenada**	,,
1169	**St. Lucia**	,,
1170	**Leeward Islands**	**1921–1922**
1171	**Fiji**	**1922**
1172	**Ceylon**	,,
1173	**Gibraltar**	,,
1174	**British Guiana**	,,
1175	**Barbados**	**1922–1923**
1176	**Basutoland**	,,
1177	**St. Vincent**	**1922**
1178	**Bechuanaland Protectorate**	**1922–1923**
1179	**Mauritius**	**1922**
1180	**Swaziland**	,,
1181	**British Honduras**	,,
1182	**Uganda**	,,
1183	**Federated Malay States**	,,
1184	**Unfederated Malay States**	,,
1185	**State of Brunei**	,,
1186	**Straits Settlements**	,,
1187	**Falkland Islands**	,,
1188	**Kenya Colony and Protectorate**	,,
1189	**British Solomon Islands Protectorate**	**1922–1923**
1190	**Jamaica**	**1922**
1191	**Seychelles**	,,
1192	**Bahamas**	**1922–1923**
1193	**Somaliland**	**1922**
1194	**Northern Territories of the Gold Coast**	**1922–1923**
1195	**Leeward Island**	,,
1196	**Turks and Caicos Island**	**1922**
1197	**Nigeria**	**1923**

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-Seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1248.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1924.

(For report for 1923 see No. 1198.)

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No. 1248.

WEIHAIWEI.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1924.

I. FINANCE.

The financial year in this Territory ends on 31st March, 1925, and it is therefore only possible to give figures of the year 1924-25 for the period 1st April to 31st December, 1924.

The following table shows the financial position during the past four years:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Grant-in-Aid* (showing dollars and sterling.)	
	$	$	$	£
1920–21	164,973	235,445	129,596	20,000
1921–22	212,464	270,306	61,311	8,000
1922–23	195,946	203,741	nil	nil
1923–24	213,956	205,411	nil	nil
1923 (1st April to 31st December)	171,915	156,383	nil	nil
1924 (1st April to 31st December)	166,383	141,022	nil	nil

The Revenue includes the sums of $12,010 and $11,310 for 1st April to 31st December, 1923 and 1924 respectively, on account of the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme, and Expenditure those of $4,429 and $1,653 respectively, on account of the same Scheme.

It will be seen that the Revenue for the nine months of the year 1924 is slightly less than that for the same period of the year 1923. This decrease is mainly attributable to a fall in the exportation of salt; in spite of this, however, the surplus of revenue over expenditure during the period in question shows no appreciable decline as compared with the same period of 1923.

The revenue collected during the calendar year 1924 amounted to $194,097, as compared with $198,468 in the year 1923. A further sum of $14,391 was collected during 1924 in connection with the Wuk'ou Scheme.

The estimated revenue for the financial year 1924–25 was $176,360, excluding the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme.

The estimated expenditure for the year 1924–25 was $224,224, a figure which will be reduced by about $35,000 owing to the rigid economy exercised during the year.

When regard is had to the present uncertain conditions the financial position of the Territory may be regarded as satisfactory, but the figures given cannot, as has been pointed out in previous reports, be accepted as indicative of the normal finances of Weihaiwei for expenditure on a much enhanced scale must be incurred if the Territory remains under British Administration.

No Grants-in-Aid from Imperial funds has been necessary since 1921–22 and none will be required to carry on through the present financial year.

Currency.

During the year there has been a considerable shortage of money among the native population of the Territory, which has produced an adverse effect on the revenue. The local shop notes have continued to depreciate and the copper subsidiary coinage has risen from 200 to 250 for the dollar.

II. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Conditions in the Territory.

Unrest prevailed throughout the Province of Shantung and highway robbers and brigand bands have, as usual, terrorised villages over the border but no attempt was made to raid or create trouble on the British side of the border.

III. CHANGES OF STAFF.

The following changes in the Government staff have occurred during the past year:—

Appointments.

(1) Mr. W. R. Haller was appointed Financial Secretary on 21st June, 1924.

(2) Surgeon-Lieutenant L. McGolrick, Royal Navy, was appointed Junior Medical Officer for the periods from 8th to 12th, and 19th to 29th December, 1924, and from 6th January, 1925.

(3) Surgeon-Lieutenant L. McGolrick, Royal Navy, was appointed Acting Senior Medical Officer from 13th to 18th December.

(4) Dr. Francis Clark, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H., was appointed Senior Medical Officer on 19th December.

Retirements.

Dr. M. C. Cooper, M.C., M.R.C.S. (England), L.R.C.P. (London), Senior Medical Officer, retired on 12th December, 1924.

IV. NAVAL.

(*a*) Admiral Sir Arthur Leveson, K.C.B., Naval Commander-in-Chief, China Station, flew his flag on shore on the Island of Liu Kung during part of last year, towards the end of which

(18675) Wt.6337/432 500 7/25 Harrow G.94.

he was relieved by his successor, Vice-Admiral Sir Allen Frederic Everett, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B., who visited Weihaiwei in December on his Flagship H.M.S. "Hawkins." Owing to the unsettled political conditions in North China one or more of the ships of the China Fleet were retained on duty at Weihaiwei until the end of the year.

The behaviour of the men of the Fleet was, as usual, exemplary.

(*b*) The Commander-in-Chief of the American Fleet in the Far East, Admiral Washington, visited Weihaiwei in July on board the U.S.S. "General Alava," escorted by the U.S.S. "Huron." The Admiral was accompanied by Mr. Jacob Gould Shurman, the American Minister to China, who remained for a visit of a few days.

(*c*) In August, Rear-Admiral Kichisaburo Nomura arrived on board the Japanese Cruiser "Tone" for a brief visit to Weihaiwei.

(*d*) The French Admiral Frochet paid a visit of a week's duration to Weihaiwei on board the Cruiser "Jules Ferry."

V. MILITARY.

The platoon of the Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire) under the command of Lieutenant Elrington, M.C., was relieved in September by a further platoon of the same regiment under the command of Lieutenant G. W. Gibson. Both platoons have fully maintained the high standard of discipline shown by their predecessors and no complaint of any serious nature has been made by the inhabitants in respect of the behaviour of the men. In order to discourage the ingress from Chinese soil of robber bands and armed deserters, the troops have, at my request, made frequent tours throughout the length and breadth of the Territory, and I am glad to record that no untoward incident occurred during the year.

VI. POLICE.

Establishment of Additional Police Posts.

Alarmed by the serious increase of lawlessness and brigandage throughout every part of the Province of Shantung other than the Territory of Weihaiwei, the Chinese Civil Governor last year issued instructions to each district magistrate directing him to take a census of the inhabitants within his jurisdiction in order that the authorities might obtain fuller information of, and so place restrictive measures on, the movements and activity of bad and suspicious characters. As an outcome of his investigations the Magistrate of the Jung Ch'eng district, which adjoins the eastern border of this Territory, informed this Government that he proposed to establish a police post on the Chinese side of the village of Tu Chia, through which the Weihaiwei border line runs, and invited the Government to take similar action on the British side. The village in question being a well-known sanctuary of fugitives from Chinese justice, a British police post was in June last placed there in accordance with the Magistrate's request. At the same time, as a further precaution against the ingress of robber bands into the Territory, an additional police post was established at the border villages of Pao Hsin and Hsiao Yen Tan. To obtain men for the service of the three new posts it was necessary to reduce the number of police on duty at the headquarters in Port Edward and at the larger stations along the border, with the result that the force is at present insufficient in strength to cope succesfully with the work. No spare men are available to fill vacancies caused by sickness, resignations, etc., and the weakness of the cordon along the frontier is a cause of grave anxiety to the Government. To meet the situation an increase in the number of the police has been inserted in the Estimates of the coming year.

Conduct of Police.

The conduct of the police during the past year has been somewhat unsatisfactory. Out of a total strength of 124, six constables and one non-commissioned officer were dismissed on conviction of serious offences; eleven constables were in addition fined for minor offences, such as gambling in police quarters; one constable deserted, and seven declined to renew their agreements. This undesirable state of affairs is in part attributable to unrest occasioned by the approach of rendition, as the fear that the present force may after rendition be disbanded by the incoming Chinese Administration has tempted some members of the force to endeavour to exploit the public while they are yet dressed in little brief authority. But the main reason for the deterioration in the morale of the police is beyond all question the lack of adequate foreign supervision. It will be remembered that the Government staff was in 1923 drastically reduced as a preliminary to the return of the Territory to China. The British police inspectors are consequently at present under strength; those inspectors who yet remain in the service of the Government are, moreover, seriously hampered in the execution of their duties by the necessity of carrying on the work of Government posts left vacant on grounds of economy. During the past eighteen months it has at no time been possible for the administration to recommend the engagement of the inspectors required to bring the staff to normal strength, and despite every effort made by the Territorial Police Inspector and other officers to visit outlying posts as frequently as possible, it follows that the men in these posts do, of necessity, possess more freedom and are thereby more exposed to temptation than was ever the case in the past history of the administration.

Strength of Force.

The strength of the police force was 124 of all ranks distributed over the following stations :—

	N.C.O's.	*Warders.*	*Constables.*	*Total.*
Port Edward ...	4	2	40	46
Territory ...	13	—	50	63
Island	1	6	8	15
	18	8	98	124

Police Work.

Despite the unrest and brigandage prevailing on the Chinese side of the border there has been a marked absence of serious crime in the Territory during the past year. Two serious cases were reported, one of torture and one of murder. In the latter case a Russian woman living in an obscure village in the heart of the Territory was accused of the murder of her paramour but was acquitted after a trial by jury presided over by Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Judge of the Weihaiwei High Court.

VII. JUDICIAL.

Civil Cases.

The civil cases heard in the Senior District Officer's Court during the past year show a very marked increase over the preceding year, the total number being 193 in 1924, as compared with 121 in the year 1923. The greatest increase is shown in debt cases, which have increased from 37 in 1923 to 87 in the past year. In 1924 the inheritance of property accounted for 27 cases and marriage disputes for 17, as compared with 15 and 9 respectively in the preceding year. Property cases which comprise, among others, disputes regarding the ownership of land, houses, graveyards, etc., were approximately the same as in 1923, totalling 53 as against 49. The remaining 9 cases were varied and concerned breaches of village regulations, and of agreements, management of temples, maintenance of parents, responsibility for son's debts, and assault.

This large increase of civil cases is due solely to the tightness of money, a condition of national and not solely local origin. Chinese businesses are all founded on credit, and combine with ordinary buying and selling money-lending to approved customers. Accounts, too, for food, clothing, etc., are but rarely paid in cash, but are settled at quarter day. Owing to bad trade, each settlement during the past year has become more difficult than the preceding one, and has only been possible by an extension of credit, the creditor in his turn obtaining an extension of the period of his loan to the next settling day.

The vicious circle has hence become enlarged. China New Year, which is about a month later than the Western New Year, is the final term of settlement, and extensions of short-term loans over that date are rarely possible.

Owing to slackness of trade, there is no means for the countryman to obtain money to settle his debts except by the sale of land; but owing to the general tightness of money no purchasers are forthcoming even at greatly reduced prices, and a general settlement is therefore impossible. Failure of a number of smaller concerns, with little or no capital, is certain, but the larger firms have all sufficient funds to carry them over the New Year's settlement and no serious bankruptcies are to be expected.

Nine appeals against the decision in the Senior District Officer's Court were heard in the High Court. In 5 the decision of the lower Court was upheld, in 2 it was amended or partially reversed, and in 2 reversed.

Out of the 193 cases commenced in the Court, 40 were later withdrawn, having been settled out of Court

Criminal Cases.

During the year, 567 cases were tried or heard in the first instance in the Junior District Officer's Court, as compared with 452 last year. The total number of persons convicted was 1,207, of whom 104 were sentenced to imprisonment and 1,103 to pay fines. Cases of assault and other offences against the person numbered 56. There were 148 cases of gambling, 26 breaches of the Opium Ordinance, 5 of the Stamp Ordinance, and 78 of Vehicle, Sanitary and other regulations.

Fifty-five cases of more serious crime occurred, namely, 1 of murder, 1 of burglary, 1 of aggravated assault (torture), 1 of forgery, 2 of housebreaking, 48 of larceny, and 2 of obtaining money by false pretences. Of these, the murder case was tried by His Majesty's Judge, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, sitting with a jury, the accused, a Russian woman, being acquitted of the charge of stabbing the Chinese with whom she was living. The burglary, aggravated assault, forgery, and 2 larceny cases were tried by the Officer Administering the Government, sitting as Judge of the High Court.

There were 80 cases of suicide compared with 61 in 1923.

The revenue benefited to the extent of $2,631.60 from fines, while rewards to the police amounted to $445.

High Court.

Six criminal cases were tried in the Court, as stated above. In addition, 18 civil cases were heard, seven of which were proceedings in bankruptcy.

Births, Deaths and Marriages.

One death, and one civil and two religious marriages, all among the European community, have been registered during 1924, registration being optional to, and but rarely undertaken by, Chinese.

VIII. EDUCATION.

European. Mr. Beer's School.

As foreshadowed in last year's report, the educational facilities provided by this School were reduced and teaching was confined to a few small boys and girls.

Chinese. Government School (Boys).

Enrolment 153, of whom 16 were non-Territory boys, as compared with 117 in 1923. Of these, 98 paid fees. The School will be filled to its maximum capacity (160) next term and the formation of a new class is under consideration. This will entail the engagement of a new teacher on a temporary basis pending rendition.

Anglican Mission School (Boys).

The average number of scholars per term, viz., 120, has been maintained. The new building mentioned in last year's report has been built and is used for class-rooms. Quarters for boarders are still insufficient. Two new Chinese masters have joined the staff and a higher standard of work has in consequence been attained. In 1925, instead of 3 classes of Higher Primary and 1 of Middle Grade, it is hoped to advance to the second year Middle Grade.

St. Joseph's Catholic Mission School (Boys).

Enrolment 151, compared with 38 in 1923.

Plymouth Brethren Mission Schools.

(*a*) Boys.—Enrolment 33. No change.

(*b*) Girls.—Enrolment 56 boarders and 21 day girls; total 77, compared with 53 in 1923.

Hsu Te Girls' School.

Enrolment 38, compared with 43 in 1923.

"Popular" Education. (Night Schools for the Poor.)

Six new classes have been started in the Territory, making a total of 26. In addition, two day classes for girls have been started. The enrolment in the first category is 600 and in the second 50.

IX. LEGISLATION.

No new Ordinances were promulgated. The Dentistry Regulations were amended and the Vehicle Regulations consolidated and extended.

X. AGRICULTURE.

The spring crops were average, but the autumn crops suffered severely from drought as the rainfall in August and September, usually two of the wettest months, was negligible.

XI. SALT PRODUCTION.

The number of salt-pans in the Territory is now 328, covering an area of 5,006,464 mou, being an increase over the preceding year of 18 pans and 411.887 mou.

XII. SHIPPING.

Seven hundred and sixty-two steamers with a total tonnage of 782,414 called, as compared with 783 steamers with a tonnage of 797,396 in 1923. The decrease was therefore 21 steamers and 14,982 tons. British steamers numbered 431, Japanese 174, and Chinese 156. Junks inward numbered 1,533 and outward 452, or a total of 1,985.

XIII. INDUSTRIES.

The making of silk hosiery, embroidery and lace appears to be on the increase. The salting of fish is an industry of considerable size in Port Edward, and uses about half the salt annually produced in the Territory, viz., 30,000 piculs (a picul =133⅓ lb.).

XIV. TRADE.

Business was fairly brisk in the spring, but became slack in the autumn owing to the Civil War in China. Money is tight in the Territory, as higher rates of interest are obtainable elsewhere. The marketing of last season's groundnut crop was conducted at a loss on the whole, as owing to the tightness of money dealers could not wait for the higher prices ruling later in the season.

Salt was often sold at a loss in the autumn owing to the low prices prevailing in Hongkong market and the impossibility of holding stocks for an indefinite period on account of the fear of deterioration.

The total volume of trade amounted to 1,668,704, packages, valued at $13,493,811, as compared with 2,264,688 packages, worth $12,864,040 in 1923. The increase in value was therefore $629,771. The excess value of imports over exports was $2,780,649.

The movement of merchandise is shown in Appendices II and III and is summarised as follows :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*	*Net Imports.*	*Net Exports.*	*Increase or Decrease on 1923.*
	$	$	$	$	$
Bean Cake	110,073	2,399	107,674	—	— 14,220
Raw Cotton and Yarn	1,319,340	3,360	1,315,980	—	— 3,755
Groundnuts, Shelled ...	427,735	3,033,723	—	2,605,988	+ 357,830
Groundnut Oil	1,531,134	1,323,504	207,630	—	+ 267,890
Flour	269,766	2,988	266,778	—	— 120,004
Salt	4,532	34,328	—	29,796	— 352,302
Provisions	114,670	—	114,670	—	+ 15,630
Maize	163,953	2,607	161,346	—	— 5,681
Millet	24,075	1,480	22,595	—	— 17,606
Sugar and Sugar Candy	331,149	165,272	165,877	—	+ 9,136
Timber	158,044	59,050	98,994	—	— 23,782
Chinese Wine	216,090	—	216,090	—	— 4,548
Fish, Salt and Dried ...	99,035	57,025	42,010	—	— 61,460
Candles	17,816	—	17,816	—	— 6,580
Cigarettes	189,720	—	189,720	—	— 52,560
Kerosene	72,950	14,785	58,165	—	— 88,120
Rice	241,660	4,016	237,644	—	+ 43,569
Leather	23,820	2,910	20,910	—	+ 3,690

XV. MEDICAL AND SANITARY.

The general health of the population, both native and foreign, during the year has been good. During the summer months there was a small epidemic of rubeola and also of whooping cough amongst the visitors, but both diseases were of a mild form and the epidemics quickly subsided.

Two hundred and thirty cases of dysentery or diarrhoea were treated in the Civil Hospital, as compared with 212 the year before last.

No case of cholera, plague or smallpox was notified.

The work of the Port Edward Civil Hospital has shown a steady increase. The number of patients treated in the hospital as in-patients was 313, as compared with 239 in 1923, while a total of 384 operations were performed, as compared with 239 in the previous year. There was a marked increase in the number of major operations performed, while the total number of operations under general anaesthesia was almost double that of the previous year.

The scheme for feeding the in-patients from a hospital kitchen, which was commenced last year, has worked very satisfactorily, and has cost the Government nothing except the initial outlay.

The plan of substituting hospital beds for the kangs at present used has not yet been carried out, but this and similar reforms are urgently needed.

On 29th December the Officer Commanding the detachment of British Troops stationed in Weihaiwei, a British Police Inspector, and Dr. Francis Clark, the newly-appointed Senior Medical Officer to the Government, were infected by saliva from the mouth of a dog that died suddenly with symptoms strongly resembling those of dumb rabies. All these officers were accordingly instructed to proceed to Tientsin for a course of Pasteur treatment. The bacteriological examination of the head of the dead dog subsequently made at Tientsin disclosed the fact that the dog was in fact mad on the day of death.

During the absence of Dr. Francis Clark at Tientsin the services of Surgeon-Lieutenant L. McGolrick have, by the courtesy of Sir Allen F. Everett, the Commander-in-Chief, China Station, been lent to the Government for duty on the mainland.

Sanitation.

In connection with the sanitation of Port Edward area very little new work has been done. A new latrine has been constructed over the gulley in No. 9 Road to replace the old and very insanitary one lower down the same road. The drains along Market Street have been relaid by prison labour.

XVI. CLIMATE.

The meteorological report of the climate shows that the year 1924 was a very hot and dry one. The highest temperature recorded was 95° F. in August, with a mean for that month of 88·3° F. which is 3·6° higher than last year. The total rainfall for the year was only 16·11 inches, as compared with 25·78 inches in 1923, being only ·58 inches above the total in 1917, the year in which the lowest rainfall is recorded.

W. RUSSELL BROWN,
Officer Administering the Government.

Government House,
Weihaiwei.
10th March, 1925.

APPENDIX I.

TABLE OF TOTAL VOLUME AND VALUE OF TRADE, 1924.

	Packages.	*Value.*
		$
Imports by Steamers	407,242	4,891,099
Imports by Junks	588,606	3,246,131
Total Imports	995,848	8,137,230
Exports by Steamers	584,170	4,943,062
Exports by Junks	88,686	413,519
Total Exports	672,856	5,356,581
Total Trade	1,668,704	13,493,811
Note. (1) Total Steamer Trade ...	991,412	9,834,161
Total Junk Trade ...	677,292	3,659,650
(2) Excess of Imports over Exports	—	$2,780,649

APPENDIX II.

TABLE OF PRINCIPAL IMPORTS, 1924.

	By Steamers.		*By Junks.*		*Total.*	
Commodity.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		$		$		$
Beans, bags ...	1,967	11,802	15,652	62,608	17,619	74,410
Beancake, pieces ...	17,304	31,147	43,848	78,926	61,152	110,073
Bean Oil, tins ...	50	500	2,199	21,990	2,249	22,490
Candles, cases ...	3,945	15,780	509	2,036	4,454	17,816
Cement, casks ...	2,131	12,786	325	1,950	2,456	14,736
Cigarettes, cases ...	1,581	189,720	—	—	1,581	189,720
Coal, tons	3,760	56,400	2,604	39,060	6,364	95,460
Cotton, Raw, bales	1,162	52,290	90	4,050	1,252	56,340
Cotton Yarn, bales	6,314	1,262,800	1	200	6,315	1,263,000
Cocoons, bales ...	18	2,700	121	18,150	139	20,850
Dollars, cases ...	48	192,000	—	—	48	192,000
Dyes, casks ...	683	23,905	—	—	683	23,905
Explosives, boxes	69	2,760	—	—	69	2,760
Fish, Salt and Dried, baskets.	787	11,805	8,723	87,230	1,510	99,035
Flour, bags ...	87,371	262,113	2,551	7,653	89,922	269,766
Groundnuts, bags	—	—	4,946	19,784	4,946	19,784
Groundnuts, Shelled, bags.	—	—	38,885	427,735	38,885	427,735
Groundnut Oil, tins	—	—	255,189	1,531,134	255,189	1,531,134
Gunny bags, bales	1,530	91,800	43	2,150	1,573	93,950
Hemp, bales ...	1,310	13,100	467	4,670	5,777	17,770
Iron, sheets, pieces	347	20,820	—	—	347	20,820
Iron, old, pieces ...	8,400	42,000	1,342	6,710	9,742	48,710
Kaoliang, bags ...	—	—	1,561	4,683	1,561	4,683
Kerosene, cases ...	8,854	44,270	5,736	28,680	14,590	72,950
Leather, bales ...	218	19,620	60	4,200	278	23,820
Maize, bags ...	622	3,110	54,281	162,843	54,903	163,953
Matches, cases ...	10	60	2,257	13,542	2,267	13,602
Medicines, cases ...	286	14,300	524	26,200	810	40,500
Millet, bags, ...	—	—	4,815	24,075	4,815	24,075
Paper, cases ...	16,541	82,705	5,563	27,815	22,104	110,520
Provisions, cases ...	2,276	113,800	87	870	3,163	114,670
Piece Goods, packages.	6,147	1,229,400	1	200	6,148	1,229,600
Rice, bags ...	10,175	122,100	14,945	119,560	25,120	241,660
Salt, piculs ...	—	—	9,065	4,532	9,065	4,532
Silk and Satin, cases	53	21,200	—	—	53	21,200
Soap, cases ...	1,478	5,912	156	624	1,634	6,536
Soda Ash, cases ...	1,046	10,460	36	360	1,182	10,820
Sugar, bags ...	25,436	330,668	37	481	25,473	331,149
Timber, cubic feet	172,630	138,104	24,925	19,940	197,555	158,044
Tobacco, cases ...	474	9,480	153	3,060	727	12,540
Tobacco, Dust ...	1,319	6,595	—	—	1,319	6,595
Wine, Chinese, jars	936	1,872	23,802	214,218	24,738	216,090
Wine, Foreign, cases	1,282	25,640	—	—	1,282	25,640
Wood Oil, casks ...	618	12,360	—	—	618	12,360
China and Earthenware, packages.	25	125	12,902	58,693	12,927	58,818
Ginseng, cases ...	6	12,000	29	29,000	35	41,000

APPENDIX III.

TABLE OF PRINCIPAL EXPORTS, 1924.

Commodity.	*By Steamers.*		*By Junks.*		*Totals.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.* $	*Quantity.*	*Value.* $	*Quantity.*	*Value.* $
Beans, bags ...	740	4,440	1,132	4,528	1,872	8,968
Beancakes, pieces	153	275	1,180	2,124	1,333	2,399
Bean Oil, barrels ...	605	6,050	604	6,040	1,209	12,090
Bean Paste, tins ...	134	670	1,479	7,395	1,613	8,065
Cotton, Raw, bales	—	—	48	2,160	48	2,160
Cotton Yarn, bales	—	—	6	1,200	6	1,200
Cement, casks ...	—	—	322	1,932	322	1,932
Eggs, crates ...	1,113	7,791	20	140	1,133	7,931
Fish, Salt and Dried, baskets.	1,247	18,705	3,832	38,320	5,079	57,025
Flour, bags ...	—	—	996	2,988	996	2,988
Groundnuts, bags	7,694	30,776	—	—	7,694	30,776
Groundnuts, shelled bags.	274,037	3,014,407	1,756	19,316	275,793	3,033,723
Groundnut Oil, tins	220,578	1,323,468	6	36	220,584	1,323,504
Iron, old, piculs ...	—	—	8,395	41,975	8,395	41,975
Kerosene, cases ...	—	—	2,957	14,785	2,957	14,785
Leather, bales ...	2	180	39	2,730	41	2,910
Maize, bags ...	—	—	869	2,607	869	2,607
Millet, bags ...	—	—	296	1,480	296	1,480
Medicines, cases ...	242	12,100	105	5,250	347	17,350
Rice, bags ...	—	—	502	4,016	502	4,016
Salt, piculs ...	68,656	34,328	—	—	68,656	34,328
Sugar, bags ...	—	—	11,129	144,677	11,129	144,677
Sugar Candy, bags	—	—	1,373	20,595	1,373	20,595
Sasson, boxes ...	1,181	59,050	—	—	1,181	59,050
Timber, cubic feet	—	—	38,204	30,563	38,204	30,563
Dollars, cases ...	65	260,000	—	—	65	260,000
Silk Refuse, bales...	200	18,600	—	—	200	18,600
Chinaware, packages	55	5,212	1,464	7,320	1,519	12,532
Wheat, bags ...	—	—	1,805	7,220	1,805	7,220
Ginseng, cases ...	24	48,000	—	—	24	48,000

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No. 1295.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1925.

(*For reports for 1923 and 1924 see Nos. 1198 and 1248 respectively (Price 6d. each).*)

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No. 1295.

WEIHAIWEI.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1925.

I. General.

The territory of Weihaiwei was leased to Great Britain by China by a Convention signed at Peking, on the 1st July, 1898, " in order to provide Great Britain with a suitable Naval harbour in North China and for the better protection of British commerce in the neighbouring seas."

The leased territory, which lies in latitude 37°30′ North, longitude 122°10′ East, is situated in the Chinese Province of Shantung, on the north-eastern coast of the Shantung Peninsula. It comprises the Island of Liukung, all the islands in the Bay of Weihaiwei, and a belt of land ten English miles wide along the entire coast line.

The bay is six miles broad and from three to four wide. To it there is easy access from the eastern and western passages, the former being two-and-a-quarter miles wide, the latter two-thirds of a mile wide. These two channels are formed by the Island of Liukung, which, lying east and west across the bay and being two miles long and three-quarters of a mile wide, forms a protection to the anchorage.

DISTURBED CONDITIONS BEYOND THE BORDER.

Although peace and prosperity reigned throughout the Territory both the Government and the people have undergone much anxiety during the past year in view of the possibility of the spread to Weihaiwei of the anti-foreign movement and the turmoil, brigandage, and warfare that have raged in the Province of Shantung.

The anti-British agitation and boycott had a faint repercussion in this Territory. The movement, however, promptly subsided on the realisation by the agitators that neither the authorities nor the people were inclined to tolerate any disturbance of the good relations that have always existed between the Government and the inhabitants.

In the midst of wars and alarms in China the Territory has remained undisturbed but not unaffected, and unceasing vigilance alone has saved the villagers from attack and pillage by bands of defeated soldiery and marauders, whose incursions have on more than one occasion been barely checked by the hurried despatch to the frontier of every available member of the constabulary

II. Finance.

REVENUE.

The financial year in this Territory ends on March 31st of each year, and complete returns of Revenue and Expenditure are available only for the period from 1st April to 31st December, 1925. During these nine months the net revenue collected amounted to $170,993 and the net expenditure to $140,000. No Grant-in-Aid has been made since the year 1921–22 and none will be required during the present financial year.

It is anticipated that the total net collection of revenue during the complete financial year ending on March 31st, 1926, will amount to $201,000, being $20,000 in excess of the estimated total of $181,423. The figures will constitute the largest amount of revenue hitherto collected in the Territory.

The following table shows the financial position during the past four years :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Grant-in-Aid* (showing dollars and sterling.)	
	$	$	$	£
1921–22	212,464	270,306	61,311	8,000
1922–23	195,946	203,741	nil	nil
1923–24	213,956	205,411	nil	nil
1924–25	204,353	181,793	nil	nil
1924 (1st April to 31st December)	166,383	141,022	nil	nil
1925. 1st April to 31st December)	181,762	141,484	nil	nil

The Revenue for 1st April to 31st December, 1924, includes the sum of $11,310 on account of a special levy for the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme, and for the same period of 1925 a sum of $10,769, on account of the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme ($5,075) and the Port Edward Breakwater Scheme ($5,694).

Expenditure in connection with the Wuk'ou Improvement and Port Edward Breakwater Schemes for the periods from 1st April to 31st December of 1924 and 1925, amounted to $1,653 and $1,484 respectively. (In 1925 $625 were expended on account of the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme and $859 on account of the Breakwater Scheme).

During the year 1925, the overdraft from the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on account of the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme was repaid and a new account opened with the same bank on account of the Breakwater Scheme.

The net revenue collected during the calendar year 1925 amounted to $205,170 as compared with $194,097 in 1924. A further sum of $14,258 was collected during 1925 in connection with the Wuk'ou and Breakwater Schemes.

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During the year the expenditure has been cut down to the lowest possible figure which would permit the administration to function with efficiency, and in pursuance of this policy no new works have been put in hand by the Government.

The estimated expenditure for the entire financial year 1925–26 was $208,581, and the net expenditure for the period 1st April to 31st December, 1925, has been $140,000. The estimated expenditure for the remaining three months of the financial year 1925–26 is expected to amount to $48,000, which will show a saving of approximately $20,500 on the estimates for the whole year.

In view of the general dislocation of trade in China proper, occasioned by industrial and political unrest, civil war, and the anti-British agitation, the financial progress of the Territory is not unsatisfactory, but, as pointed out in the year of 1924, the figures given cannot be accepted as indicative of the normal financial condition of Weihaiwei, as expenditure on an enhanced scale must inevitably be incurred if the Territory remains for any definite period under British control.

CURRENCY.

The shortage of money among the native population of the Territory, and the further depreciation, since the last report, of local shop notes and the copper subsidiary coinage,—the latter has risen from 250 for the dollar to 272—continue to produce an adverse effect on the trade and revenue of the Territory.

The average rate of exchange for the Mexican dollar used in the Territory has remained steady during the year, the highest level reached being 2/3⅞ in September and the lowest 2/2⅜ in April 1925.

III. Changes in Staff.

Surgeon-Lieutenant L. McGolrick, Royal Navy, was appointed Junior Medical Officer, and discharged the duties of that office from January 6th to April 15th.

Mr. S. Wyatt-Smith, Acting Senior District Officer, was relieved by Mr. A. A. L. Tuson on the 17th November.

Mr. S. L. Burdett, M.C., was appointed Junior District Officer on the 17th November.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Judge of the High Court, retired on the 26th October, and was succeeded by Mr. Peter Grain, Mr. G. W. King, O.B.E., being appointed as temporary Judge as from the 27th October.

Surgeon-Commander A. McCloy, Royal Navy, terminated his appointment in December as Medical Officer of Health of Liu Kung Island, and was succeeded by Surgeon-Commander N. S. Meiklejohn, D.S.O., Royal Navy.

IV. Naval.

His Majesty's Fleet under the Command of Rear-Admiral D. M. Anderson, C.B., C.M.G., M.V.O., which arrived at Weihaiwei in May, was unable to make a prolonged stay owing to the urgent need of Warships at Hongkong and the China Treaty Ports for the protection of foreign life and property during the disturbances and the anti-British agitation that followed the Shanghai riot of May 30th. The absence of the bulk of the Fleet during the summer season proved a severe blow to the Chinese merchants and dealers of Weihaiwei, whose prosperity is largely dependent on the custom of the Fleet.

The behaviour of the men of the Fleet was, as usual, excellent.

V. Military.

The detachment of the 1st Battalion of the Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire), under the Command of Lieutenant M. Elrington, M.C., was in November relieved by a platoon of the East Yorkshire Regiment under the Command of Lieutenant H. MacGonigal, M.C. The presence in the Territory of a British Military detachment has proved of material assistance in preventing raids by brigands and armed deserters from the Chinese side of the frontier, and until law and order have been restored in China its retention is necessary to the safety of the Territory.

VI. Police.

The engagement of one extra corporal and 23 constables in April of the present year brought the establishment at Port Edward and the posts in the Territory to full strength, and it was possible for the first time on record to subject the new recruits to a six weeks' course of training before they were placed on duty. This increase in the force has greatly facilitated the maintenance of peace and good order on the border and has proved of great benefit to the inhabitants of the Territory in protecting them from molestation by armed robbers, who abound throughout the Province.

In spite of the augmentation of the force, the establishment of the Territory posts is on a minimum basis, and it would not at any time be advisable to reduce it in order to re-enforce the Headquarter Staff at Port Edward who have benefited by the increase to the extent of one Non-commissioned Officer and three constables and are now four men short of the 1923 establishment. The expansion of Port Edward, referred to in the Annual Report for 1923, is proceeding apace. Extensive building operations are taking place at the North Gate and also to the south-east of the Chinese city of Weihaiwei, and there has been a phenomenal increase in the cart traffic. All this calls for an increase in the number of police posts at Port Edward, and for additional patrols, for which it is impossible to make provision with the present establishment. Considerable inroads are already made into the spare time of the police at headquarters and it is not possible to increase their hours of duty. The maximum number of men obtainable at any time for training purposes is 30, and such training must of necessity take place when the men are strictly speaking "off duty." A further increase in the Port Edward establishment of one Non-Commissioned Officer and six constables will therefore be necessary in the near future.

PRESENT STRENGTH OF FORCE.

The strength of the police force was 148 of all ranks distributed as follows :—

	N.C.Os.	*Warders.*	*Constables.*	*Total.*
Port Edward	5	2	46	53
Territory	13	—	65	78
Island	1	6	10	17
	19	8	121	148

CONDUCT OF POLICE.

The conduct of the police has shown a marked improvement on the preceding year. Out of a total strength of 148, two Non-commissioned Officers were discharged on conviction of receiving bribes, five constables were discharged for misconduct, and three resigned. The lack of adequate foreign supervision must always re-act unfavourably on the police force, but the increase in the number of police has somewhat improved the facilities for training and discipline at headquarters, and is largely responsible for the distinct check that has been effected as regards the decline in *moral* of the force as a whole.

MUSKETRY.

The results of the musketry practice carried out during the year were very satisfactory. There were 16 Marksmen, 37 First Class shots and 51 Second Class shots as compared with 9 Marksmen, 29 First Class shots and 35 Second Class shots in 1923.

VII. Judicial.

CIVIL CASES.

The cases heard during 1925, again show a marked increase over the preceding year, the total number being 235 as compared with 193 in 1924 and 121 in 1923. Debt cases numbered 154 as compared with 87 in 1924. This large increase is accounted for by the bad state of business during the last half-year owing to anti-foreign strikes and boycotts and civil war in China proper, and the consequent irregular shipping service and tightness of money. The absence of most of the

Fleet during the summer was also responsible for much loss of business. There were numerous failures, the majority of which were dealt with by the Port Edward Chamber of Commerce in accordance with Chinese commercial custom, recourse being had to the Court in a few cases which were beyond the power of the Chamber to settle.

Land cases numbered 52, adoption 10, matrimonial 8, grazing 5, road 3, damage by fire 2, village headmen 1. Twenty-seven cases were eventually settled out of Court.

Fifteen cases were re-heard by the High Court on appeal. In eight the decision of the lower Court was upheld, in three amended or partially reversed, and in four reversed.

CRIMINAL CASES.

The figures for 1924 and 1925 are as follows :—

1924—Cases 487, Suicides 80.
1925— ,, 579, ,, 68.

The total number of convictions was 1,211, of whom 1,072 were fined, 2 were banished, and 137 committed. Gambling, of which there were 167 cases, accounts for 826 of these convictions. Cases of assault and other offences against the person numbered 77. There were 39 breaches of the Opium Ordinance, 3 of the Stamp Ordinance, 10 of the Chinese Marriage Preservation Ordinance, and 73 of the Vehicle, Sanitary and other Regulations.

Eighty-three cases of more serious crime occurred, namely :— 1 of murder, 3 of perjury, 2 of manslaughter, 2 of housebreaking, 3 of robbery with aggravation, 62 of larceny, 5 of forgery, 1 of arson, 2 of obtaining money by false pretences, and 2 of unlawfully administering poison. Of these, 1 manslaughter, and 1 robbery with aggravation were tried by His Majesty's Judge, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, sitting—in the latter case—with assessors. The murder case was tried by His Majesty's Acting Judge, Mr. G. W. King, sitting with a jury. The prosecution of the three accused men had to be abandoned owing to the perjury of the chief witness for the Crown and of two other witnesses, all of whom were clansmen of the accused. Three cases of forgery, 2 of robbery with aggravation, 3 of perjury, and 1 case of unlawfully administering poison, were tried by the Officer Administering the Government, sitting as Judge of the High Court. The second case of unlawfully administering poison has not yet been tried owing to the fact that the chief accused has recently developed smallpox.

Of the above 83 cases, it will be observed that no less than 62 were larceny. Thirteen of these were dismissed, however, so that, despite the abnormal conditions prevailing on the Chinese side of the border, the Territory has really been singularly free of serious crime during the past year.

Rewards to the Police amounted to $577, and the revenue benefited to the extent of $2,210 in respect of fines.

HIGH COURT.

In addition to the twelve criminal cases mentioned above, two cases against members of the Police Force were heard by the High Court, the first for gambling and the second for receiving bribes. Two Non-commissioned Officers and two constables were discharged as a result of these cases.

The civil cases heard by this Court amounted to 24, seven of which were proceedings in bankruptcy and five debt cases.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES.

One birth and one death occurred on the mainland, and one birth and four deaths on the Island. The last figure includes the deaths of two naval ratings drowned from a boat which capsized. One religious marriage took place on the mainland.

VIII. Education.

EUROPEAN.

Mr. Beer definitely closed his school at the end of the Autumn term, and no facilities for the education of European children at present exist in Port Edward.

CHINESE.

Government School (Boys).—The enrolment was 180 as compared with 153 last year. A new class was formed, and an extra teacher engaged temporarily, as foreshadowed in last year's report.

Anglican Mission School (Boys).—The enrolment was 140 as compared with 120 last year. About half the boys left after the Shanghai incident of May 30th, on the ground that the school was under British management, but there are indications that the school will fill up again next term. A large new class room was built during the spring.

Plymouth Brethren Mission Schools.—(*a*) Boys: The enrolment was 30. (*b*) Girls: Port Edward. The average enrolment was 78, of whom 53 were boarders. (*c*) Girls: Nan Chu Tao. The enrolment was 25. (*d*) Girls: A new school with 23 pupils was opened outside the North Gate of the City.

New Middle School (Boys).—This is to be opened early in 1926 by the Port Edward Chamber of Commerce in quarters provided by the Government, and it will cater for boys from 13 to 18.

St. Joseph's Catholic Mission School (Boys).—The enrolment was 241 as compared with 151 last year.

Hsu Te Girls' School.—Enrolment 42 as compared with 38 in 1924.

" Popular " Education.—(Free classes for the poor).—A class was started in the Island Gaol, and many prisoners have availed themselves of the facilities thus offered.

IX. Legislation.

No new Ordinances were promulgated. A Proclamation amending the Game Preservation Ordinance was issued, and Regulations amending the Harbour Regulations (Licence Fees) and Shipping Dues Regulations (Port Edward Breakwater) made.

X. Agriculture.

The spring and autumn harvests were both very good owing to a satisfactory rainfall at the right time.

XI. Fishing.

In the winter of 1924 two Chinese-owned motor fishing trawlers from the Chinese Treaty Port of Chefoo carried on fishing operations in the Territoral waters with great profit. Their action has resulted in the formation of a local Anglo-Chinese partnership, which has acquired two similar motor trawlers from Dalny of single-cylinder Diesel type engine of Japanese manufacture. The boats, which are operated by Japanese employees, have enjoyed a successful fishing season during the past year, despite the competition of the Chinese trawlers.

XII. Salt Production.

The number of salt-pans in the Territory is now 343, covering an area of 5,094·305 mou, being an increase of 15 new pans and 87·841 mou over 1924. Most of the exportable surplus salt was shipped to Corea.

XIII. Shipping.

Seven hundred and fifty-four steamers with a total tonnage of 796,351 called, as compared with 762 steamers with a tonnage of 782,414 in 1924. This shows a decrease of 8 in the number of steamers, but an increase of 13,937 tons in the tonnage.

British steamers numbered 349, Japanese 205, Chinese 188, German 10, and Norwegian 2.

Junks inward numbered 1,253, and outward 372, or a total of 1,625.

During the shipping strike at Shanghai in the months of June and July the vessels of the China Navigation and Indo-China Steam Navigation Companies, which in normal circumstances maintain regular passenger and freight services between Shanghai, Tientsin and Port Edward, had perforce to cease operations, and Weihaiwei was for some time practically without steamer communication with the China Treaty Ports. A number of the foreign summer visitors from Shanghai were, however, enabled to reach Port Edward in the ss. "Mantua," which was diverted for that purpose by the Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company. Other foreign visitors were similarly brought to

Weihaiwei by the ss. " Patroclus " and the ss. " Antenor " of the Blue Funnel line. Had it not been for the courteous and timely assistance rendered by these two shipping companies, Weihaiwei would have been almost devoid of visitors during the summer season.

XIV. Trade.

The total volume of trade amounted to 1,464,219 packages valued at $12,454,621 as compared with 1,668,704 packages worth $13,493,811 in 1924. The decrease in value on last year's figures is therefore $1,039,190. The excess of Imports over Exports was $3,770,215.

The movement of merchandise is shown in Appendices Nos. II and III and is summarised as follows :—

Commodity.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Net Imports.*	*Net Exports.*	*Increase or Decrease on 1924.*
	$	$	$	$	$
Bean Cake	**161,776**	**4,370**	**157,406**	**—**	**— 49,732**
Candles	**12,712**	**8,376**	**4,336**	**—**	**— 13,480**
Cigarettes	**218,400**	**20,160**	**198,240**	**—**	**— 8,520**
Raw Cotton and Yarn	**1,791,495**	**11,640**	**1,779,855**	**—**	**—463,875**
Fish (salt and dried) ...	**87,960**	**104,160**	**—**	**16,200**	**— 58,210**
Flour	**144,117**	**23**	**141,094**	**—**	**—122,684**
Groundnuts (shelled) ...	**231,605**	**2,430,384**	**—**	**2,208,779**	**—397,209**
Groundnut Oil	**964,100**	**1,002,642**	**—**	**38,532**	**—246,162**
Kerosene	**138,885**	**9,545**	**129,340**	**—**	**— 71,175**
Leather	**19,230**	**1,570**	**17,660**	**—**	**— 3,250**
Maize	**80,160**	**555**	**79,605**	**—**	**— 81,741**
Millet	**33,647**	**—**	**33,647**	**—**	**— 11,052**
Provisions	**86,210**	**3,330**	**82,880**	**—**	**— 31,790**
Rice	**385,614**	**8,250**	**277,364**	**—**	**—139,720**
Salt	**—**	**74,123**	**—**	**74,123**	**— 44,327**
Timber	**118,955**	**25,710**	**93,245**	**—**	**— 5,749**
Wine (Chinese) ...	**266,620**	**4,270**	**262,350**	**—**	**— 46,260**
Sugar and Candy ...	**382,260**	**129,066**	**253,194**	**—**	**— 87,317**

The last half of the year was a bad one for business in the Territory, as in the rest of China, owing to civil war and anti-foreign agitation. It is estimated that $1,000,000 less business than might have been looked for was done, and of this figure the absence of the Fleet as a whole accounted for approximately $300,000.

The marketing of last year's groundnut crop was made difficult for a time owing to the interruption of shipping with Honkong and the stagnation of trade between that place and Canton, but eventually a new market was found in Shanghai and stocks disposed of.

XV. Medical.

The general health of the civilian foreign community, both resident and visiting, was good, and no epidemic occurred. One civilian death was recorded from carbuncle of the neck, and there was only one serious case of dysentery—a visitor who contracted the disease before arrival.

The health of the native population was also satisfactory; only 156 cases of dysentery and diarrhœa were treated, of which 55 applied at the Island Hospital and 30 at Wen Chuan Tang.

The total attendances of new patients at the three hospitals was 15,058 as compared with 14,898 in 1923, while 259 in-patients were treated (278 in 1923). The operations performed numbered 938, of which 165 were under chloroform and 44 under cocaine, the remainder comprising tooth extractions (368), abscesses, and other minor surgery. Forty-two obstetrical cases were attended, mostly in the patients' own homes.

Tubercular disease of bones and joints is quite common, and a number of long cane deck chairs have been obtained from Hongkong to give these patients the benefits of sunlight and fresh air; unfortunately, owing to the shipping strike, they arrived too late to be of much use in 1925, but advantage will be taken of them to treat these patients in the open air in future in the inner quadrangle of the Civil Hospital.

The seven deaths in the Civil Hospital comprised 3 from injuries, 1 from poisoning (suicide), 1 from cholera, 1 from amputation of the leg, and 1 following operation for the removal of a stone in the bladder.

Owing to the prevalence of cholera in Shanghai, that Port was declared infected on August 17th, and all vessels arriving therefrom were boarded and the passengers and crew medically inspected, while a special hospital was fitted up for the reception of any cases that might be landed here. Sporadic cases of the disease occurred in neighbouring ports, but only one case reached Weihaiwei and was admitted to hospital, where the patient unfortunately died from uræmia five days later. Quarantine was removed on October 5th.

Seventy-three cases of poisoning were treated at the hospitals, arsenic and phosphorus (matches) being the usual poisons employed, the former in attempted murder cases, and the latter in the much more frequent attempts at suicide.

A case of considerable interest was that of a young man whose skeleton was found nine days after he had disappeared from his home. The whole of the soft tissues had been stripped from the bones, and these were scattered over a clearing in high grass, all the small bones being missing while the ends of the long bones showed evidence of having been gnawed. The skull had a large fracture on the left side, and torn fragments of clothing showed extensive blood stains on the collar-bands and left shoulder and sleeve, while a blood-stained sack was also found on the spot. There was reason to believe that the man had been murdered and his body removed, with the sack over his head and chest, to the place where it was found outside the village, and had there been devoured by native dogs, but it was not found possible to secure a conviction, though three men were charged with the crime.

A vaccination campaign was held in May and June and 7,074 persons were treated, but smallpox still occurs sporadically in the more scattered districts during the winter and early spring.

Kala-azar, a disease first identified in 1900 and believed to be conveyed to man from the dog by fleas and bugs, is very prevalent in the district, no less than 100 new cases having presented themselves for treatment during the year. The aldehyde-blood-serum test was found of value in confirming the diagnosis, and these cases have been treated with success by intra-venous injections of antimony tartrate, commencing with a dose of ½ grain. 438 of these inoculations were given during the year.

XVI. Meteorological Report.

Situated on the sea shore in the North Temperate Zone, Weihaiwei experiences neither extreme of great heat or cold. The climate is healthy and bracing in winter, and the summer, although hot, is by no means relaxing. The highest temperature yet recorded in the history of the Territory is 99° F., in 1922, and the lowest 1° F., in 1913. The heaviest rainfall was 47·70 inches in 1914, and the lowest 15·53 inches in 1918.

The highest barometer reading obtained during the year 1925 was 30·7 in December, and the lowest record was 29·5 in May and June, the average monthly range being ·56.

The highest and lowest temperatures were 98° F., in June, and 12° F., in December.

Rain fell on 54 days, the total fall being 23·66 inches as compared with 16·11 inches in 1924, and 26·565 inches the average rainfall during the twenty years 1906—1925.

W. RUSSELL BROWN,
Officer Administering the Government.

Government House,
Weihaiwei.
17th March, 1926.

Appendix I.

TABLE OF TOTAL VOLUME AND VALUE OF TRADE, 1925.

	Packages.	*Value.*
		$
Imports by Steamers	360,321	5,541,027
Imports by Junks	463,678	2,571,391
Total Imports	823,999	8,112,418
Exports by Steamers	564,418	3,971,424
Exports by Junks	75,802	370,779
Total Exports	640,220	4,342,203
Total Trade	1,464,219	12,454,621
Note.—(1) Total Steamers Trade	924,739	9,512,451
Total Junks Trade	539,480	2,942,170
(2) Excess of Imports over Exports		3,770,215

Appendix II.

TABLE OF PRINCIPAL IMPORTS, 1925.

Commodity.	*By Steamers.*		*By Junks.*		*Total.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		$		$		$
Beans, bags... ...	1,568	9,408	5,814	20,753	7,382	30,161
Beancake, pieces ...	51,974	93,553	37,902	68,223	89,876	161,776
Bean oil, tins ...	505	5,050	5,141	51,410	5,646	56,460
Candles, cases ...	2,771	11,084	407	1,628	3,178	12,712
Cement, casks ...	1,110	6,660	936	5,616	2,046	12,276
Cigarettes, cases ...	1,820	218,400	—	—	1,820	218,400
Coal, tons	4,123	61,845	2,411	36,165	6,534	98,010
Cotton, raw, bales ...	1,499	74,950	221	9,945	1,720	84,895
Cotton, yarn, bales	8,533	1,706,600	—	—	8,533	1,706,600
Cocoons, bales ...	47	7,050	68	10,200	115	17,250
Dollars, cases ...	38	152,000	—	—	38	152,000
Dyes, casks ...	637	22,295	21	735	658	23,030
Explosives, boxes ...	722	28,880	—	—	722	28,880
Fish (salt and dried), baskets	372	5,580	8,238	82,380	8,610	87,960
Floor-boards, bundles	496	24,800	—	—	496	24,800
Flour, bags ...	36,577	127,961	4,896	16,156	41,473	144,117
Groundnuts, bags ...	—	—	2,636	10,544	2,636	10,544
Groundnuts, shelled, bags	860	9,460	20,195	222,145	21,055	231,605
Groundnuts, oil, tins	36	216	160,649	963,894	160,685	964,110
Gunny Bags, bales...	1,986	119,160	95	4,750	2,081	123,910
Hemp, bales ...	1,306	13,060	216	2,160	1,522	15,220
Iron, sheets, pieces	349	20,940	23	1,380	372	22,320
Iron, old, pieces ...	2,786	13,930	2,275	11,325	5,061	25,255
Iron, plates, pieces...	769	23,070	—	—	769	23,070
Kaoliang, bags ...	3,545	12,407	5,976	17,928	9,521	30,335
Kerosene, cases ...	12,350	55,575	16,662	83,310	29,012	138,885
Leather, bales ...	160	14,400	69	4,830	229	19,230
Maize, bags ...	4,002	20,010	20,050	60,150	24,052	80,160
Matches, cases ...	3	18	3,899	23,394	3,902	23,412
Medicines, cases ...	188	9,400	405	20,250	593	29,650
Millet, bags ...	206	1,442	6,441	32,205	6,647	33,647
Paper, cases ...	18,108	90,540	2,998	14,990	21,106	105,530
Provisions, cases ...	1,696	84,800	141	1,410	1,837	86,210
Piece Goods, packages	7,254	1,450,800	6	1,200	7,260	1,452,000
Rice, bags	12,666	177,324	20,829	208,290	33,495	385,614
Salt, piculs	—	—	—	—	—	—
Silk and Satin, cases	20	8,000	—	—	20	8,000
Soap, cases	2,316	9,264	167	668	2,483	9,932
Soda-ash, cases ...	1,097	10,970	138	1,380	1,235	12,350
Sugar, bags ...	31,844	382,128	11	132	31,855	382,260
Timber, cub. ft. ...	116,343	93,074	32,352	25,881	148,695	118,955
Tobacco, cases ...	188	3,760	45	900	233	4,660
Tobacco, dust, cases	689	3,445	361	1,805	1,050	5,250
Wine, Chinese, jars	825	1,650	26,497	264,970	27,322	266,620
Wine, Foreign, cases	643	12,860	175	3,500	818	16,360
Wood oil, casks ...	633	12,660	44	880	677	13,540
China and Earthen Ware, packages	125	625	3,174	15,870	3,299	16,495
Ginseng, cases ...	6	18,000	—	—	6	18,000

Appendix III.

TABLE OF PRINCIPAL EXPORTS, 1925.

Commodity.	*By Steamers.*		*By Junks.*		*Total.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.* $	*Quantity.*	*Value.* $	*Quantity.*	*Value.* $
Beans, bags...	1,995	11,970	1,259	5,036	3,254	17,006
Beancakes, pieces ...	—	—	2,428	4,370	2,428	4,370
Bean oil, barrels ...	42	420	11	110	53	530
Bean paste, tins ...	161	805	2,446	12,230	2,607	13,035
Cotton, raw, bales...	5	250	222	9,990	227	10,240
Cotton, yarn, bales	—	—	7	1,400	7	1,400
Cement, casks ...	—	—	44	264	44	264
Eggs, cases	6,346	44,422	350	2,450	6,696	46,872
Fish (salt and dried), baskets	4,870	73,050	3,111	31,110	7,981	104,160
Flour, bags ...	—	—	7	23	7	23
Groundnuts, bags ...	4,243	16,972	—	—	4,243	16,972
Groundnuts, shelled, bags	214,905	2,363,955	6,039	66,429	220,944	2,430,384
Groundnuts, oil, tins	166,723	1,002,438	34	204	166,757	1,002,642
Iron, old, piculs ...	2	10	2,493	12,465	2,495	12,475
Kerosene, cases ...	—	—	1,909	9,545	1,909	9,545
Leather, bales ...	5	450	16	1,120	21	1,570
Maize, bags ...	—	—	185	555	185	555
Millet, bags ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medicines, cases ...	91	4,550	47	2,350	138	6,900
Rice, bags	345	4,830	342	3,420	687	8,250
Salt, piculs	148,145	74,022	203	101	148,348	74,123
Sugar, bags ...	50	600	10,357	124,284	10,407	124,884
Sugar-candy, bags	—	—	697	4,182	697	4,182
Sasson, boxes ...	1,320	66,000	—	—	1,320	66,000
Timber, cub. ft. ...	22	17	32,117	25,693	32,139	25,710
Dollars, cases ...	25	100,000	—	—	25	100,000
Silk, bales	56	22,400	—	—	56	22,400
Chinaware, packages	1	4	862	4,310	863	4,314
Wheat, bags ...	—	—	196	784	196	784
Ginseng, cases ...	18	54,000	—	—	18	54,000
Provisions, cases ...	66	3,300	3	30	69	3,330
Wine, Chinese, jars	—	—	427	4,270	427	4,270
Candles, cases ...	1,657	6,628	437	1,748	2,094	8,376
Cigarettes, cases ...	167	20,040	1	120	168	20,160

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No. 1338.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1926.

(For reports for 1924 and 1925 see Nos. 1248 and 1295 respectively (Price 6d. each).)

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No. 1338.

WEIHAIWEI.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1926.

I. General.

So far as British interests are concerned, the history of Weihaiwei begins in 1898, the year in which the Territory was leased by China to Great Britain, "in order to provide Great Britain with a suitable naval harbour in North China, and for the better protection of British commerce in the neighbouring seas." The leased territory, which comprises an area of approximately 288 square miles, with an irregular coast line of 72 miles, is situated a few miles to the west of the north-eastern promontory of Shantung Province, and contains more than 300 villages, in which dwell the bulk of a population estimated at over 160,000 souls.

At the time when the British Authorities occupied Weihaiwei, the Territory was a roadless, desolate tract of land inhabited by a poverty-stricken peasantry who earned a bare subsistence by fishing and tilling the soil; of trade, other than the barter of dried fish for native wine, none existed, for the simple reason that the Territory produced no commodity suitable for export. But twenty-eight years of British rule have produced a striking change in conditions in the Territory. Unhampered by excessive taxation, the people have been enabled to rise from poverty to prosperity; agricultural pursuits have been developed; waste land has been reclaimed and put under cultivation; good roads have been constructed in place of the former mule-tracks; and industry and commerce have been fostered. To-day a common sight is the congestion of the roads leading into Port Edward with lines of carts bringing in the produce of the Territory and the neighbouring Chinese districts, or carrying back into the interior imports for distribution. Revenue has kept pace with the general prosperity. In 1901–2, the year in which the Colonial Office first took over the administration of Weihaiwei, the total revenue amounted to $22,000; in 1926 the net revenue collected was $240,782, and there existed, in addition, a balance of $152,484 to the credit of the Government.

Apart from all other considerations, however, the great blessing that British rule has brought to the people of the Territory during the past twenty-eight years has been the gift of peace, a gift that will be gratefully remembered by the people long after the British Government shall have ceased to function in the Territory.

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II. Finance.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

During the nine months 1st April to 31st December, 1926, the net revenue collected amounted to $201,756, as compared with $181,762 and $166,383 for the same periods of 1925 and 1924 respectively, and it is anticipated that the total net collection of revenue during the financial year ending 31st March, 1927, will amount to nearly $240,000, as compared with $195,849, the estimated total collection for the year 1926-27.

The net revenue collected during the calendar year 1926 amounted to $240,782, as compared with $205,170 in 1925. A further sum of $17,346 was collected during 1926 in connection with the Port Edward Breakwater scheme.

The net expenditure from 1st April to 31st December, 1926, was $164,304, as compared with $141,484 and $141,022 for the same periods of 1925 and 1924 respectively.

For the complete financial year the estimated expenditure is $216,965, or $4,138 less than the original estimate for the year 1926–27.

The net expenditure for the calendar year 1926 was $211,734, as compared with $186,050 for the same period of 1925.

The increase in expenditure over previous years is mainly due to the following items :—

Repairs to S.L. " Alexandra "	$7,000
Engagement of Junior Medical Officer, and the low rate of exchange	$5,000

The following table shows the financial position for the past four years :—

Year.	*Revenue.* $	*Expenditure.* $
1922–23	195,946	203,741
1923–24	213,956	205,411
1924–25	204,353	181,793
1925–26	224,217	190,147
1925 (1st April to 31st December)	181,762	141,484
1926 (1st April to 31st December)	201,756	164,304

The revenue for 1st April to 31st December, 1925, includes the sum of $10,769 on account of a special levy for the Wuk'ou and Breakwater schemes, and for the same period of 1926 a sum of $14,210 on account of the Breakwater scheme.

Expenditure in connection with the above schemes for the same periods amounted to $1,484 and $1,618.

No Grant-in-Aid has been made since 1921–22 and it is not anticipated that any sum will be required from Imperial Funds during the present financial year or in 1927–28.

The balance standing to the credit of the Government Account on the 31st December, 1926, was $152,484, and to the credit of the special account for the Breakwater scheme $22,248, as compared with $130,523 and $8,750 respectively on the 31st December, 1925.

Revenue shows a marked increase over previous years, and as there are still large stocks of groundnuts awaiting shipment, it is probable that the total collection will be far in excess of that of previous years.

CURRENCY.

In January, 1926, the rate of exchange was 2/2⅝ equals $1.00 Mexican. Towards the end of February silver depreciated and the dollar value commenced to fall until on 20th October the value was 1/7½, the lowest rate since 1914. After a few days the value rose slowly to 1/9 3/16 at the end of December, 1926.

The average rate of exchange for the Mexican dollar during the calendar year was 2/0⅜.

A further depreciation, since the last report, has taken place in the value of local shop notes and copper subsidiary coinage, and in December the rate was 290 coppers to the dollar, as compared with 272, the highest rate in 1925.

III. Changes in Staff.

Mr. Peter Grain assumed duty, as Judge of His Majesty's High Court, on the 11th January.

Mr. S. L. Burdett, of His Majesty's Consular Service, was relieved of the duties of Junior District Officer by Mr. L. H. C. Calthrop on the 1st March.

Dr. L. McGolrick was appointed to be Junior Medical Officer on the 3rd June.

IV. Naval.

VISITS OF BRITISH SQUADRON AND FOREIGN SHIPS OF WAR.

The British Fleet under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Edwin S. Alexander-Sinclair, K.C.B., M.V.O., assembled at Weihaiwei at about the middle of June and left at the beginning of September. The presence of so many warships during the summer was a source of keen satisfaction to Chinese merchants and dealers in Port Edward, who had in 1925 suffered a loss of approximately $300,000 by the withdrawal of His Majesty's Ships due to the disturbances in China in that year.

The behaviour of the men of the Fleet was, as usual, excellent.

The Japanese Second Fleet consisting of the battle cruisers "Kirishima" and "Hiyei," H.J.M.S. "Nagakujira," and five submarines visited Weihaiwei for three days in April. Vice-Admiral Naomi Taniguchi, in command of the Fleet, was present as a Midshipman in the Japanese squadron that assisted in the capture of Weihaiwei in 1895.

The Japanese First Squadron, consisting of the "Tone," "Hirado," and four destroyers, under the command of Rear-Admiral O. Nagano, spent two days at Weihaiwei in August.

The 16th and 17th Submarine Divisions of the United States Navy, accompanied by the tenders "Canopus" and "Beaver," arrived on the 27th and left on the 28th of September.

V. Police.

The conduct of the police as a whole during the past year may be considered to be satisfactory in view of existing conditions, but a disquieting feature was the number of non-commissioned officers whom it was found necessary to discharge. Seven N.C.O's. out of a strength of 19 were during the year discharged for various grave offences, including the acceptance of bribes, failure to report a murder until four days after the occurrence, and for inefficiency. Out of a strength of 124 men, 15 police constables were dismissed for misconduct of various kinds; one N.C.O. and 15 police constables were reprimanded and fined for minor offences; one N.C.O. died; seven police constables resigned; and one warder and one police constable were discharged as medically unfit. This state of affairs is partly due to the low rate of pay received by the force. The senior N.C.O's., on behalf of the men, recently petitioned the Government for an increase of pay, but their requirements could not be considered owing to the strict injunction laid on the Government to cut down expenditure and economise in every possible way. The Inspectors are at present under strength, and they cannot exercise that close control over the police posts in the Territory and over the patrols in the Port Edward area which is essential if the conduct of the police is to be improved. These Inspectors have, moreover, in addition to their police work, many other duties to perform, which take up too large a proportion of their time.

STRENGTH OF FORCE.

	N.C.O's.	*Constables.*	*Warders.*	*Total.*
Port Edward ...	5	49	2	56
The Territory ...	13	65	—	78
The Island ...	1	10	6	17
Total ...	19	124	8	151

These figures show an increase of three men, who were taken on in the summer months to act as special constables. The savings in the estimates effected by the dismissal of some N.C.O's. and men and their replacement by men at a lower rate of pay enabled this to be done without extra expense. It was found necessary to reinforce the Meng Chia Chuang Police Post by three men in order to set more men free for day duty at Ch'iao T'ou

Market, and to establish a night patrol from that post to Ch'iao T'ou to check kidnapping and armed robbery, by gangs of brigands, from spreading across the frontier to the territory. Ch'iao T'ou is a notorious centre for bad characters and pickpockets, and the value of this step was proved by the arrest of a well-known pickpocket and by the fact that no case of kidnapping, robbery, or burglary has occurred in this district since the reinforcement took place, although over the border crimes of this nature still continue to be prevalent. Three men were sent from headquarters to effect this reinforcement, and the three " special constables " took their place. As it is considered highly desirable to maintain the Meng Chia Chuang post at its present strength, provision in next year's estimates has been made for the permanent retention of the three men as police constables.

WORK OF POLICE.

Port Edward.—There has been no serious case of crime in the Port Edward area. Beyond a few thefts, the offences have been entirely breaches of the regulations and ordinances. Under the Wuk'ou Pier Amended Regulations, brought into force at the beginning of this year, the Water Police have done good work. That all Chinese passengers from ships are now obliged to land at the Wuk'ou Pier renders police supervision much easier and far more effective. It at once resulted in large seizures of smuggled opium (imported) and copper coins (exported), and the discovery of several cases of trafficking in women. At present in Port Edward the above offences are greatly checked, and have almost disappeared. The re-organisation of the duties of the Water Police has further assisted to this end.

The increase in trade and shipping has resulted in a large increase in the number of carts and bicycles and many new buildings have been erected during the year. This has naturally resulted in extra work and responsibility being thrown on the police. The inns are closely supervised. Inspection takes place at irregular intervals, and under the new Common Lodging House and Inn Regulations landlords can no longer shelter bad characters with impunity.

The Territory.—The Territory on the whole has been peaceful and serious crimes have been comparatively rare. Though there has been a great deal of brigandage over the border, it has not spread into the Territory.

There were two murders in the course of the past year. In the first case, the nude body of an elderly man was found, but the police were greatly handicapped by the fact that no one came forward to identify the body, in spite of notices being posted. It can only be concluded that the man was not a native of the Territory, and had come in to attend a large fair, which was being held at the time.

In the second case a crop watcher was murdered at about midnight when proceeding on his rounds. Here, again, the Territory Inspector was handicapped, inasmuch as the sergeant-in-charge of the nearest police post did not report the murder until four days after it occurred. No assistance was given by the district and village headmen, though clansmen of deceased, nor by the relatives, who had in the meantime buried the body and seemed unwilling to assist in the discovery of the murderer. Four men were arrested on suspicion, but owing to the extreme reluctance of the villagers to give evidence—some even going to the length of perjuring themselves—no case was made out against the accused, and they were discharged at the preliminary trial in the Junior District Officer's Court. The district headman and village headman were deprived of their position, and the village fined. The sergeant concerned was dismissed.

Good work was done in the rounding up of a noted gang of burglars, and in the arrest of six receivers of the stolen property. Two armed robbers, who had been active during the year, were arrested and punished. Since the arrest of the above-mentioned men the Territory has been almost entirely free from serious crime. A man who was forging and uttering bad notes was also arrested after good work on the part of the police.

The remainder of the cases dealt with were chiefly breaches of the Opium and Gambling Ordinances, and cases of assault.

The Island.—There was no crime on the Island. The offences committed were all of a minor nature.

The health of the force was good. The men were vaccinated.

MUSKETRY.

The Annual Musketry Course could not be fired this year owing to lack of funds. The force was, however, given tests at the miniature range, with small-arm ammunition, from which they emerged with credit. It is proposed to hold the musketry course early next year, when funds will be available.

VI. Judicial.

Civil Cases.—The number of civil cases commenced in 1926 was 239, as compared with 235 in 1925. Of these, 38 were settled out of Court. Land cases numbered 53, and other property cases 31. Adoption cases numbered 18, matrimonial 4, roads 4, debt 112, village headmen 2, village regulations 2, quarries 2, land tax 3. There were also two cases of torture and six of bankruptcies. Four cases were re-heard by the High Court on appeal.

Criminal Cases.—During the year, 702 cases were tried or heard in the first instance in the Junior District Officer's Court, as compared with 647 in 1925. The total number of persons convicted was 1,952, of whom 172 were imprisoned and 1,752 fined. Cases of assault and other offences against the person numbered 60. There were 173 gambling cases, 87 breaches of the Opium Ordinance, 2 of the Stamp Ordinance, 80 breaches of the Arms and Ammunition Ordinance, Export and Import Prohibition Ordinance, Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance, and other Ordinances, and 82 breaches of Vehicle, Sanitary, Harbour, and other Regulations.

Sixty cases of more serious crime occurred, namely : 1 murder, 2 robberies, 7 burglary, 1 forgery, 1 arson, 4 house-breaking, 1 shop-breaking, 28 larceny, 4 of obtaining money by false pretences, 1 attempted larceny with threats, 1 perjury, and 9 cases of the possession or receiving of stolen property.

The case of murder was heard at a preliminary examination in the Junior District Officer's Court. A prima facie case was, however, not made out, and the four accused were acquitted.

There were 42 suicides, as compared with 68 of last year.

The revenue benefited to the extent of $7,192.25, and the rewards to the police amounted to $2,133.50, and Tiao $300.00. This last reward was paid from coppers seized under the Export and Import Prohibition Ordinance.

High Court.—There were ten criminal cases in the High Court, namely, 1 case of attempted murder by the administering of poison, the preliminary trial of which was included in last year's report of the Junior District Officer's Court, 1 arson, 2 robbery under arms, 2 burglary, 1 perjury, 1 larceny (attempted) with threats, 1 forgery, and one appeal from a conviction for breach of the Quarantine Regulations.

There were three civil cases heard. All the above were tried by His Honour the Officer Administering the Government sitting as Judge.

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.

Two births, one death, and two marriages among the non-Chinese population were registered in 1926.

VII. Education.

Government School (Boys).—The enrolment was 200, as compared with 180 last year.

Ch'i Tung Middle School (Boys).—This school was opened in March, under the auspices of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, in buildings lent by the Government. The enrolment in 1926 was 40, of whom 12 were boarders.

Anglican Mission School (Boys).—The average attendance was about 100, as compared with 140 in 1925. The opening of the new Middle School has doubtless affected this school.

St. Joseph's Catholic School (Boys).—The enrolment was 223, as compared with 241 in 1925.

Free Classes for the Poor.—Twelve classes were held in 1926, and the attendance was 206 in the spring and 316 in the autumn term. The formation of new classes is planned for 1927. The proceeds of the Theatrical Tax collected by district headmen are now devoted to this Society and the amount received by it in 1926 was $450.

VIII. Legislation.

Two Ordinances were promulgated in 1926, the Opium (Amendment) Ordinance, to amend the Opium Ordinance 1909, and the Merchant Shipping Fees Ordinance, to fix the fees to be taken in respect of matters concerning merchant shipping

In order to meet the wishes of the authorities of adjoining districts, a proclamation was issued under the Export and Import Prohibition Ordinance of 1920 prohibiting the export of saltpetre without licence. Grain and coinage are the other articles, the export of which is now regulated in this way.

Regulations were issued for the control of native lodging houses, registration of mortgages (Yä t'ieh), and to amend the Quarry Rules and Land and House Tax Regulations.

IX. Agriculture.

Crops.—It has not been a good year for crops owing to a drought in the 4th moon and to abundant rain in the 6th moon. During the spring the rainfall was sufficient, and the wheat and sweet potatoes, planted then, were normal. Groundnuts, the chief export of the territory, were good, but owing to the excessive rain the kernels were too moist and could not be exported to distant ports. Indian corn suffered severely from the drought and was well below the average yield. Turnips failed completely and beans were poor.

X. Salt Production.

The number of salt-pans in the Territory is now 361, covering an area of 5,269.205 mou, being an increase of 11 new pans and 174.9 mou over 1925. The revenue collected amounted to $986.65, as compared with $965.27 in 1925.

XI. Import of Dyestuffs.

Dyes and indigo imported during 1926 are classified as follows :—

	Dyes.	*Indigo.*	
	(cases)	*(cases)*	*(barrels)*
British	—	—	30
Chinese	40	—	—
Swiss	—	20	260
French	—	—	225
German	82	293	695
American	19	—	385
Japanese	55	—	—
Total	196	313	1,595

XII. Shipping.

Eight hundred and thirty-eight vessels, with a total tonnage of 943,361 tons, called at Port Edward, as compared with 754 steamers, with a tonnage of 796,351, in 1925. British steamers numbered 485, American 6, Chinese 144, Dutch 1, German 15, and Japanese 187. Junks inward numbered 1,299, and outward 434, as compared with 1,253 and 372 respectively in 1925.

XIII. Trade.

Business was fairly good, and compared favourably with other ports in China suffering from the Civil War. Salt was chiefly exported to Chemulpo instead of Hong Kong as a very favourable price was obtained in the former port. Besides salt, the chief export of the Territory continues to be groundnuts. In addition to the native shops, three foreign firms—The Siberian Co., The East Asiatic Co. and Messrs. W. Niggerman & Co.—are doing a large trade in the export of groundnuts. Salted fish found new markets in Tsingtao and Shanghai, and was exported in large quantities by junks.

The total volume of trade amounted to 1,632,827 packages, valued at $15,794,586.39, as compared with 1,464,219 and $12,454,621 respectively in 1925.

The total value of imports was valued at $10,431,387.30, and exports at $5,363,199.09. The excess value of imports over exports is therefore $5,068,188.21.

The movement of merchandise is shown in the Appendices and is summarized as follows :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*	*Net Imports.*	*Net Exports.*	*Increase or Decrease on 1925.*
	$	$	$	$	$
Bean Cakes	118,402	264	118,138	—	− 39,268
Raw Cotton and Yarn	2,429,255	11,835	2,417,420	—	+ 637,565
Coal	160,266	3,213	157,053	—	+ 61,953
Indian Corn	261,524	—	261,524	—	+ 181,919
Flour	359,801	3,593	356,208	—	+ 215,114
Fish, salt and dried ...	190,140	177,240	12,900	—	+ 29,100
Piece-goods	2,574,800	12,000	2,562,800	—	+ 1,114,408
Groundnuts	251,258	3,154,369	—	2,903,111	+ 697,904
Groundnut Oil	811,680	1,141,482	—	329,802	+ 291,270
Millet	103,938	12,900	91,038	—	+ 57,391
Kerosene	103,842	475	103,367	—	− 25,973
Provisions	139,550	9,750	129,800	—	+ 46,920
Rice	396,422	13,330	383,092	—	+ 105,728
Paper	122,555	1,625	120,930	—	+ 16,925
Salt	240	97,960	—	97,720	+ 23,597
Sugar and Sugar-cane...	209,440	105,954	103,486	—	− 149,708
Timber	141,921	27,642	114,279	—	+ 21,034
Tobacco and Cigarettes	330,145	13,220	216,925	—	+ 207,594
Leather	9,200	800	8,400	—	− 9,260

Industries.—The making of silk hosiery, lace, and embroidery remains steady, and employed many women and girls from the districts round Port Edward. This industry, however, is not very profitable owing to the high price of cocoons and the low quality of silk produced, which decreases the demand. Besides, however, exporting it to other parts of China, a small market in America has been discovered. It is worthy of note that Russian mercerised embroidery thread, "Bear" trademark, has this year appeared on the local market. The quality appears to be equal to that of the English thread, and the price is considerably cheaper. The salting of fish has greatly increased, owing to the formation last year of an Anglo-Chinese fishing company and also to the local firms buying or acting as agents for motor fishing-boats on observing the success of the above company. The fish is now lightly salted and exported to Shanghai, where a market has been found, instead of heavily salting it and exporting to Hong Kong, as was formerly the case.

XIV. Medical.

General Health.—The health of the civilian foreign community, both resident and visiting, was excellent, and no epidemic occurred. Two cases of measles of a severe type were imported, but these made a good recovery and the infection did not spread. One death of a child (a visitor) occurred on the Island from acute dysentery.

The health of the native population was also good ; a number of mild cases of smallpox occurred in the spring in the outlying villages, but there was no other epidemic, although intestinal diseases were more numerous than usual, the total treated at the three hospitals being 377, as against 156 in the previous year. This is the natural corollary to a wet summer, as the increased moisture encourages the breeding of flies.

Hospitals.—The total number of new patients at the three hospitals was 15,112 (15,058 in 1925), while 240 in-patients were treated. The operations performed under chloroform numbered 166 (165 in 1925), and under cocaine 39, while 578 minor operations without anæsthetic, including tooth extractions, were recorded. Twenty-seven obstetrical cases were attended, mostly in their own homes.

Four deaths occurred in the Civil Hospital, one after operation for stone in the bladder, and one after operation for a tubercular abscess of the abdominal wall, the other two being medical cases, one a patient with diarrhœa of long standing, and the other a case of heart disease. One death occurred in the Island Hospital from tetanus following gangrene from frost-bitten feet.

Kala-azar.—Seventy-six new cases of Kala-azar were treated in the hospitals (100 in 1925), and fifteen were carried over from the previous year. The total number of injections given for this disease was 796, as compared with 438 in 1925, which shows that this treatment is appreciated by the patients. The youngest case was 6 years of age, and the oldest 55. The latest researches from India tend to show that the sandfly is the intermediate host in this disease and that man himself is the reservoir.

Smallpox and Vaccination.—Two cases of smallpox were treated in Port Edward and seven at Wen Chuan Tang. The vaccinations performed in the hospitals numbered 3,119, and the public vaccinators toured the villages and vaccinated 8,228 persons during March, April, and May. This gives a total of 11,347 vaccinations, as against 7,074 in 1925.

Medico-legal.—Thirty-four cases of poisoning were treated at Port Edward Hospital and twenty-six at Wen Chuan Tang. Arsenic and phosphorus were the poisons used, the former in attempted murder cases and the latter in suicides.

One interesting case was the suicide of a man by cutting his throat with a chopper—a quite unusual method among the Chinese—and, as no witnesses were available, the decision between murder and suicide had to rest on the medical evidence.

In May the body of a powerful man of about 50 years of age was found lying stark naked in the bed of a shallow stream ; post-mortem examination showed numerous bruises, scratches, and abrasions on the surface of the body and a small superficial hæmorrhage of the cerebrum, but no fracture of the skull. The cerebral hæmorrhage would no doubt have been sufficient to cause unconsciousness but not death, and it must be assumed that this was due to exposure of the naked body to the chill night air. There is very little doubt that this was a case of murder, but the assailant or assailants were not discovered.

A similar case was that of a man who had been violently assaulted with the result that the lower jaw was fractured, a portion of the upper jaw broken off and a number of his teeth scattered on the ground. Death was apparently due to hæmorrhage following the injuries to the face, but the crime could not be brought home to anyone.

Cholera in Neighbouring Ports.—Owing to the recrudescence of cholera in the southern ports during the hot weather, Canton was declared infected on 10th July, Shanghai on 22nd July, and Tsingtao on 26th August, while a small outbreak of the same disease at Antung led to that port being similarly declared infected on 21st September. Quarantine in respect of the southern ports was removed on 2nd October, and in respect of Antung on 9th October. Arrangements were made for the erection of a temporary matshed hospital should any cholera-infected patients be landed here, but fortunately only one case of this disease was discovered on medical inspection of the ships arriving from these ports, and he made a slow but successful recovery in hospital. One vessel sent a sick man ashore after pratique had been granted, but the patient died before reaching the wharf and a post-mortem examination proved that he had died of cholera. This incident resulted in a prosecution for concealment of the case, with conviction and punishment of the offenders.

XV. Meteorological.

The year was somewhat wetter than the average, the total rainfall amounting to 37.12 inches, August being the wettest month with 14.9 inches of rain, of which 8.50 inches fell in one day. The average for the previous twenty years was 26.5 inches, with a range of 47.7 inches (1914) to 15.5 inches (1918). No rain fell on 289 days of the year.

The highest temperature recorded was 98° F. on 10th August, and the lowest 12° F. on 8th December ; these figures are identical with those recorded in 1925 and do not differ materially from the average for past years.

The highest barometer reading obtained during the year was 30.69 in December, and the lowest 29.36 in June, the average monthly range being .644.

W. RUSSELL BROWN,
Officer Administering the Government.

Government House,
Weihaiwei.
15*th February*, 1927.

Appendix I.

TABLE OF TOTAL VOLUME AND VALUE OF TRADE, 1926.

	Packages.	*Value.*
		$
Imports by Steamers	419,384	7,797,692
Imports by Junks	446,894	2,633,695
Total Imports	866,278	10,431,387
Exports by Steamers	687,454	4,904,661
Exports by Junks	79,094	458,538
Total Exports	766,548	5,363,199
Total Trade	1,632,826	15,794,586

Note.—(1) Total Steamer Trade	12,702,353
(2) Total Junk Trade	3,092,233
(3) Excess of Imports over Exports	5,068,188·21

Appendix II.

Table of Principal Imports, 1926.

Commodity.	*By Steamers.*		*By Junks.*		*Total.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		$		$		$
Beans, bags... ...	5,357	37,499	3,513	17,565	8,870	55,064
Bean cake, pieces ...	23,819	47,638	35,382	70,764	59,201	118,402
Bean oil, tins ...	800	8,000	2,929	29,290	3,729	37,290
Candles, cases ...	2,965	11,860	304	1.216	3,269	13,076
Cement, casks ...	1,290	7,740	1,121	6,726	2,411	14,466
China and earthenwares, packages	35	175	5,207	26,035	5,242	26,210
Cigarettes, cases ...	2,487	298,440	—	—	2,487	298,440
Coal, tons	8,294	140,998	1,134	19,278	9,428	160,276
Cotton, raw, bales ...	1,763	79,335	156	7,020	1,919	86,355
Cotton yarn, bales	11,683	2,336,600	74	13,320	11,757	2,349,920
Cocoons, bales ...	42	6,300	50	7,500	92	13,800
Dollars, cases ...	29	116,000	—	—	29	116,000
Dyes, casks ...	2,126	74,410	40	1,400	2,166	75,810
Fish (salt and dried), baskets	197	3,940	9,310	186,200	9,507	190,140
Flour, bags ...	85,584	308,102	14,361	51,699	99,945	359,801
Ginseng, cases ...	4	12,000	—	—	4	12,000
Groundnuts, bags ...	—	—	12,514	62,570	12,514	62,570
Groundnuts, shelled, bags	70	840	15,654	187,848	15,724	188,688
Groundnut oil, tins	—	—	135,280	811,680	135,280	811,680
Gunny bags, bales ...	2,618	209,440	87	6,960	2,705	216,400
Hemp, bales ...	1,372	27,440	545	10,900	1,917	38,340
Iron sheets, pieces	452	27,120	59	3,540	511	30,660
Iron, old, pieces ...	2,221	11,105	2,945	14,725	5,166	25,830
Kaoliang, bags ...	1,814	7,256	1,364	5,456	3,178	12,712
Kerosene, cases ...	3,244	17,517	15,986	86,324	19,230	103,841
Leather, bales ...	92	9,200	—	—	92	9,200
Maize, bags ...	2,956	17,736	60,947	243,788	63,903	261,524
Matches, cases ...	182	1,092	5,478	32,868	5,660	33,960
Medicines, cases ...	411	20,550	216	10,800	627	31,350
Millet, bags ...	1,095	8,760	15,863	95,178	16,958	103,938
Paper, cases ...	16,542	82,710	7,969	39,845	24,511	122,555
Provisions, cases ...	2,313	138,780	77	770	2,390	139,550
Piece-goods, packages	12,874	2,574,800	12	2,400	12,886	2,577,200
Rice, bags	24,862	372,930	1,678	23,492	26,540	396,422
Salt, piculs	—	—	480	240	480	240
Silk and Satin, cases	24	9,600	—	—	24	9,600
Soap, cases	1,375	5,500	190	760	1,565	6,260
Soda-ash, cases ...	824	8,240	213	2,130	1,037	10,370
Sugar, bags ...	17,404	208,848	31	372	17,435	209,220
Timber, cub. ft. ...	141,995	127,796	15,695	14,125	157,690	141,921
Tobacco, cases ...	909	18,180	46	920	955	19,100
Tobacco, dust ...	1,897	9,485	250	2,500	2,147	11,985
Wine, Chinese, jars	390	5,070	25,926	311,112	26,316	316,182
Wine, foreign, cases	1,036	25,900	180	3,600	1,216	29,500
Wood oil, casks ...	440	8,800	70	1,400	510	10,200

Appendix III.

Table of Principal Exports, 1926.

Commodity.	*By Steamers.*		*By Junks.*		*Total.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.* $	*Quantity.*	*Value.* $	*Quantity.*	*Value.* $
Beans, bags... ...	277	1,939	635	3,265	930	5,204
Bean cakes, pieces ...	—	—	132	264	132	264
Bean oil, barrels ...	813	8,130	868	8,680	1,681	16,810
Bean paste, tins ...	249	1,245	1,491	7,455	1,740	8,700
Cotton, raw, bales ...	—	—	59	2,655	59	2,655
Cotton, yarn, bales	—	—	51	9,180	51	9,180
Cement, casks ...	—	—	41	246	41	246
Dollars, cases ...	25	100,000	—	—	25	100,000
Earthenwares, packages	—	—	149	745	149	745
Eggs, cases	12,449	124,490	218	2,180	12,667	126,670
Fish (salt and dried), baskets	3,350	107,000	3,512	70,240	8,862	177,240
Flour, bags ...	—	—	998	3,593	998	3,593
Ginseng, cases ...	2	6,000	—	—	2	6,000
Groundnuts, bags ...	18,643	93,215	10	50	18,653	93,265
Groundnuts, shelled, bags	248,812	2,985,744	6,280	75,360	255,092	3,061,104
Groundnut oil, tins	188,535	1,131,210	1,712	10,272	190,247	1,141,482
Iron, old, piculs ...	162	810	2,311	11,555	2,473	12,365
Kerosene oil, cases...	—	—	88	475	88	475
Leather, bales ...	8	800	—	—	8	800
Maize, piculs ...	—	—	4,644	18,576	4,644	18,576
Millet, piculs ...	—	—	2,150	12,900	2,150	12,900
Medicines, cases ...	121	6,050	133	6,650	254	12,700
Rice, bags	100	1,500	845	11,830	945	13,330
Salt, piculs	195,034	97,517	885	442	195,919	97,959
Sugar, bags ...	—	—	8,429	101,148	8,429	101,148
Sugar-candy, bags	—	—	593	3,558	593	3,558
Sassons, boxes ...	1,029	51,450	—	—	1,029	51,450
Silk, bales	60	24,000	—	—	60	24,000
Wheat, bags ...	—	—	480	2,880	480	2,880

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ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1927.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

Historical, Geographical and Descriptive.

The leased Territory of Weihaiwei is situated in the north-eastern peninsular portion of the Chinese province of Shantung. It consists of the island of Liukung (Liu-kung-tao*), a few uninhabited islets and an extensive mainland territory, the whole comprising an area of 285 square miles. By far the greater portion of the whole area was formerly comprised within the Chinese magisterial district of Wên-têng, but the most easterly section fell within the district of Jung-ch'êng which extends to the Shantung Promontory. The magisterial city of Wên-têng lies 10 miles beyond the southern boundary of the leased Territory, that of Jung-Ch'êng about 13 miles beyond the eastern boundary. These walled cities, of no great size or importance, are overshadowed by the treaty-port of Chefoo, which lies 60 miles to the west of Weihaiwei by road, and 40 miles by sea.

The seat of government is Port Edward (known to the Chinese as Ma-t'ou—" landing-place "), formerly an insignificant hamlet but now a considerable town of about 20,000 inhabitants. The adjacent walled town of Weihaiwei has always remained under Chinese jurisdiction and is governed by a minor official subordinate to the District Magistrate of Wên-têng. His authority does not extend beyond the gates of the town, which is little more than a walled village and is decreasing in population and importance *pari passu* with the growth of Port Edward.

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* Literally, the island of Mr. Liu. This Mr. Liu, of whom so little definite is known that it is not certain when he lived, is supposed to have dwelt with his wife on the island, where they devoted themselves with great zeal to various benevolent activities. The reputation they left behind them was such that they were raised to the rank of local divinities. Their images are to be found in a Temple in Port Edward.

The coast-line of the leased Territory is about 72 miles and the land frontier about 40 miles long. The mainland consists of hill-land, some of it bare and rugged, and fertile and well-cultivated valleys which support a population of over 170,000. Apart from the merchants and shopkeepers of Port Edward, and a few hundred people who make their living mainly by fishing, the population of the Territory is almost wholly agricultural.

Weihaiwei was a fortified naval port before the outbreak of the China-Japan war of 1894-95. The forts which had been constructed not long before by German engineers failed to save Weihaiwei from falling into the hands of the Japanese during that war, and a large part of the Chinese fleet based on Weihaiwei was captured or sunk. Admiral Ting Ju ch'ang, who commanded the fleet, committed suicide. These events took place early in 1895. The Japanese held the island and district for some time after the war, pending the final settlement of the terms of peace. In 1898, following on the seizure of Port Arthur by Russia, the British Government asked for and obtained a lease of Weihaiwei and the adjacent territory "for so long a period as Port Arthur shall remain in the occupation of Russia." In 1901 the Territory, which had been administered first by naval and then by military officers, was placed under the control of the Colonial Office, and has since been administered by a civil Commissioner appointed by the Crown.

In addition to the leased Territory, over which the British Government exercises sole jurisdiction, there is a much larger area (estimated at about 1,500 square miles) within which Great Britain may erect fortifications, station troops, or take any other measures necessary for defensive purposes, and may also purchase such sites as may be necessary for water supply, communications, and hospitals. It was agreed that within that zone (which extends from about halfway between Chefoo and Weihaiwei in an easterly direction to the Shantung Promontory) Chinese administration would not be interfered with, but that no troops other than Chinese or British should be allowed therein. It is worthy of remark that during the thirty years of British occupation of the leased Territory she has never exercised, in the larger area, any of the rights which she possesses. Nor has she ever interfered with Chinese jurisdiction in the walled town, though by the terms of the Weihaiwei Convention that jurisdiction was subject to and limited by British naval and military requirements for the defence of the leased Territory.

The language spoken by the Chinese of Weihaiwei is a dialect of northern mandarin, easily understood by speakers of Pekingese. The currency consists of silver dollars (Mexican, Chinese, and British) and Chinese subsidiary silver and copper coinage. The notes of the British banks operating in China are current, and are supplemented by local notes of small denomination (one-dollar and *tiao* notes representing 1,000 copper cash) issued by Chinese trading firms under the supervision and control of the local Chambers of Commerce. In their dealings with one another the people use the ordinary Chinese weights and measures, but the merchants have acquired a knowledge of British standards as well, and make use of them in their dealings with the local Government and with foreign traders.

Since the British occupation began, almost thirty years ago, the Territory, though not very advantageously situated for purposes of trade, has shown slow but steady progress and has been tranquil and prosperous. For the last seven years it has been wholly self-supporting. Very harmonious relations exist between the British authorities and the Chinese residents, who appreciate the immunity they have enjoyed under British rule from the horrors and perils of Chinese civil strife and from the ruthless extortion and callous misgovernment which during the past few years have fallen to the lot of their fellow-provincials in other parts of Shantung.

At the Washington Conference of 1921, the British Government announced its intention of returning the Territory to China, and a Rendition Agreement has been ready for signature since 1924. Unfortunately, the absence of a Chinese Government which could sign the Agreement and accept rendition in the name of the Republic of China has necessitated the postponement of rendition, which His Majesty's Government are anxious to carry out as soon as political conditions in China render such action possible and justifiable.

The following Report deals with the calendar year 1927, except in respect of finance. The financial year begins on 1st April, and for statistical and other purposes it is convenient to give in the Annual Report facts and figures relating to the whole of that year. Section II, therefore, which concerns finance only, deals with the financial year ending on 31st March, 1928.

I.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The year 1927 is regarded by the Chinese as one of the most disastrous Shantung has known since 1867, when the greater part of the province was laid waste by the Nien Fei rebels from 1853 onwards. Many natives of the province declare that the pitiable conditions of the past year surpassed even those of the Nien Fei period, and that to find a parallel it is necessary to go back to the chaos that marked the closing years of the Ming Dynasty, during the second quarter of the seventeenth century.

But there was one small portion of Shantung which in 1927 was outside the sphere of action of bandits, Chinese armies and extortionate officials, and was therefore happily exempt from the horrors undergone by millions of the Shantung peasantry. That little oasis was the leased Territory of Weihaiwei, which throughout 1927 enjoyed uninterrupted tranquillity and prosperity.

It is well known that during 1927 tens of thousands of ruined and half-starving natives of Shantung abandoned their devastated homes and migrated to Manchuria. It is probably less well known that Weihaiwei also became a haven of refuge for many. Numerous Chinese of eastern Shantung who found conditions in their own districts intolerable, owing not only to banditry but also to the rapacity and misgovernment of their own officials, were glad to find a safe refuge for themselves and their families under the British flag. Chinese merchants in Chefoo and other neighbouring districts, who could not carry on business there on account of the ruthless extortion practised by the local authorities, also entered British territory and opened business in Port Edward. The consequence is that the port has entered upon a period of prosperity and activity that it never knew in former years, trade is flourishing and expanding, land values are steadily rising, owners of house property are reaping a golden harvest from enhanced rents, and the building trade is active as never before. It is estimated that the wealth and population of Port Edward have doubled in five years, and if present political conditions in the province remain unchanged it is more than probable that the next five years will show a further equally remarkable advance.

The prosperity of the past year has not been confined to the mercantile population of Port Edward. Although the harvests of 1927 were bad, owing to an unusually dry summer which at one time threatened a general failure of crops, the agricultural classes were saved from disaster owing to the good prices obtainable for farm produce and the flourishing condition of the export trade in groundnuts, and shared to no small extent in the general prosperity of the Territory.

During the summer a battalion of British troops (the 1st Middlesex Regiment) was stationed in the Territory, and a large convalescent camp was established for officers and men of the Shanghai Defence Force. The decision to open this camp was a well-deserved tribute to the excellence of the Weihaiwei climate; and the friendly relations that were speedily established between the British soldiers and the Chinese inhabitants of the Territory, and maintained throughout the whole summer and autumn, is an indication of the total absence of any anti-foreign feeling among the people. The presence of a considerable body of British troops was in itself a good stimulus to trade, and brought profitable employment to considerable numbers of contractors and shopkeepers and dealers in farm produce.

The convalescent camp, to which was attached a temporary military hospital, was opened in July and remained in use until October. The first party of convalescents arrived on 22nd July, the last on 7th September. There were five parties in all, comprising nearly one thousand men besides officers.

After the departure of the Middlesex battalion in October their place was taken by a company of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, which constituted the garrison of the Territory throughout the winter.

The China squadron of the British fleet, commanded by Vice-Admiral Sir Reginald V. Tyrwhitt, Bart., K.C.B., D.S.O., D.C.L., spent a great part of the summer at Weihaiwei. Another distinguished naval visitor was Rear-Admiral W. H. D. Boyle, C.B., commanding the First Cruiser Squadron. No foreign warships visited the port during the year.

At the close of 1927 six years had passed since Lord Balfour announced at the Washington Conference that Great Britain was prepared, under suitable conditions, to restore the Territory of Weihaiwei to the full sovereignty of China. It is not the fault of His Majesty's Government that rendition has not yet taken place. Shortly after the Washington Conference had closed, an Anglo-Chinese Commission met and drew up a Rendition Agreement under which Weihaiwei was to be restored to China and opened as a commercial port, and the British fleet was to be allowed to continue to use the harbour as a summer anchorage, and at least for a short term of years was to retain certain privileges on the island of Liukung. The Rendition Convention was ready for signature in November, 1924, but the *coup d'état* in Peking which took place at that time and resulted in the overthrow of the President and Parliament necessitated the postponement of rendition pending the establishment of a settled Government recognised by the Powers. Meanwhile, the Territory remains in British hands, though it has been definitely stated by His Majesty's Ministers in Parliament and elsewhere that the delay in rendition does not signify any change in the policy of His Majesty's Government, which is ready and willing to sign the Rendition Agreement as soon as a Chinese Government has emerged which is in a position to ratify it and carry out its terms.

The unavoidable postponement of rendition has been regarded by the inhabitants of the Territory as an unmixed blessing. So far from there being any impatience or resentment shown by the people on account of that postponement, they make no attempt to disguise their hope that the British flag may long continue to afford them that peace and protection which they know they could not hope to obtain under the present Government of Shantung.

II.—FINANCE.*

The following tables give the totals of net revenue and expenditure for the six years ending with the financial year 1927-28 :—

	1922–23.	1923–24.	1924–25.	1925–26.	1926–27.	1927–28.
	$	$	$	$	$	$
Revenue ...	183,134	198,865	189,554	219,142	240,763	256,493·85
Expenditure ...	184,796	200,566	179,944	187,432	214,331	247,013·63
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure	—	—	9,610	31,710	26,432	9,480·22

The following figures, which show the difference between the estimated and the actual revenue for 1927-28 under the four general heads of revenue, illustrate the observations made in Section I regarding the prosperity of the year under review. It should be observed that there were no changes in taxation during the year and the higher figures are therefore solely due to the increased yield from existing **sources** :—

	Estimated for 1927–28.	*Actual for* 1927–28.	*Excess of Actual over Estimated Revenue.*
	$	$	$
Licences and Internal Revenue	179,496	210,438	30,942
Fees of Court, etc.	19,750	22,726	2,976
Rents of Government Property, etc.	9,500	9,829	329
Interest and Miscellaneous ...	8.800	13,501	4,701
Totals	217,546	256,494	38,948

In addition to general revenue, there are special assessments or surtaxes on Shipping Dues and Land Tax for Harbour Improvements and Educational purposes, respectively. The Shipping Dues surtax in 1927-28 amounted to $18,225.72 and the Educational surtax to $1,226.92. Thus the gross revenue collected by the Government during the year under review amounted to $275,946.49.

It is estimated that the revenue for 1928-29, irrespective of the special assessments. will reach about $340,000—an increase of no less than $122,454 over the original estimate for 1927-28. The estimated increase is due to a revised scale of Shipping Dues, which will come into force on 1st May, 1928, to the adoption of improved methods of supervision and collection, and to the increasing prosperity of the port.

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* **For the purposes of this section only, this Report deals with the financial year 1927–28, which closed on 31st March, 1928.**

In 1898, when the British flag was hoisted in Weihaiwei, there was practically no trade and the people were poverty-stricken. In 1900 the local revenue from all sources amounted to no more than $4,077. This increased to $21,188 in the following year, and by degrees the Territory began to show a moderate degree of prosperity. In 1903-4 the revenue was $58,364.02, raised as follows :—

	$
Licences and Internal Revenue	16,749.88
Fees of Court, etc.	2,291.83
Rents of Government Property, etc.	36,420.31
Interest and Miscellaneous	2,902.00
Total	$58,364.02

For nearly twenty years of the British administration a grant-in-aid from Imperial funds was necessary to meet the annual deficit. The total amount of money so provided by the British Exchequer reached the equivalent of £144,500. The first year in respect of which no Imperial subsidy was found to be necessary was 1916-17. Further grants were required in the three following years, but since 1921-22 the Territory has been entirely self-supporting.

III.—PRODUCTION.

(A) Agriculture.

All but a small fraction of the inhabitants of the leased Territory are engaged in agricultural pursuits. That the agricultural methods and implements used are still of a primitive description is due not merely to the well-known conservatism of the Chinese people but to their lack of capital and the diminutive size of their holdings. Nevertheless in the matter of intensive cultivation and in making the best possible use of their land the farmers of Weihaiwei have little to learn from the West. They constitute a class of small peasant proprietors. Those few who work on the land of others do so because their own farms are too small to supply all their needs and do not occupy their whole time. The principal crops are wheat, millet, barley, maize, kaoliang, beans of several kinds, sweet potatoes, and groundnuts. There is also a little cotton; and there are many varieties of vegetables. The cultivation of groundnuts has increased enormously in recent years. They are now the main source of such modest prosperity as is enjoyed by the farmers of Weihaiwei, and are also by far the most important article of export. The export is not confined to the groundnuts grown in the Territory, but includes the large quantities which are brought into the Territory for the purpose of export.

The following is a list of the principal crops and their average yield per acre :—

	Bushels per acre.
Barbados Millet	30
Barley	17
Beans	16
Kaoliang, Kaffir Corn	31
Maize	24
Sweet Potatoes	118
Wheat	19

Of groundnuts, the average yield is 2,395 pounds an acre.

In the Census Report for 1921, from which the above figures are taken, it is remarked that " it is quite common to see three kinds of crops on one plot of land at one and the same time. Wheat, nearly ready for the sickle, beans three parts grown, and cotton just planted; or wheat and sorghum with beans sprouting."

The year 1927 was a bad year for the farmers, though there was not the complete failure of crops which caused a disastrous famine in the west of the province. In the Territory the average yield was about 50 per cent. of the normal. This was due to the lack of rain throughout an unusually hot summer. The only crops that were fairly satisfactory were turnips, wheat, and sweet potatoes.

(B) Forestry, Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, Fruit-trees, etc.

Hampered by limited resources the Government has not been able to carry out any comprehensive scheme of forestation, and except in the vicinity of Port Edward and on the Island, in a few mountain ravines, in the immediate neighbourhood of villages and in graveyards, and along Government high roads, the Territory must be pronounced to be comparatively treeless. The appearance of the Island, originally bleak and bare, has been transformed out of all recognition by the Government fir plantations which have done very well in spite of the ravages of the pine-moth (*gastropacha pini*). Similar plantations in other parts of the Territory would necessitate the employment of a large staff of forest guards, to prevent the people from cutting down the young trees for firewood. The largest trees to be found in the Territory are more or less isolated specimens of the sophora Japonica, catalpa and maidenhair (*gingko biloba* or *Salisburia adiantifolia*). The last-named beautiful and interesting tree is found, as usual in both China and Japan, in proximity to sequestered Buddhist or Taoist temples. Several specimens of the gingko and sophora are regarded locally as sacred trees and are hung with the thank-offerings (usually small scraps of red cloth) of persons whose prayers are believed to have been answered by the tree-spirit.

Many trees and shrubs have been introduced into Weihaiwei by the British Government and have done well. Among the latter are the wegelia rosea, lagerstroemia indica, silver elder, sea buckthorn, spiroea callosa, forsythia suspensa, and hibiscus syriacus.

Fruit would grow well if the people could be induced to take a greater interest than they do in its cultivation. Apricots, pears, and grapes are indigenous but the two former are of comparatively poor quality. The British Government has introduced several kinds of Western fruit-trees—apple, pear, cherry, plum, peach, nectarine, and fig. Most of them are capable of thriving in the climate and soil of Weihaiwei, but fruit-culture has not yet engaged the serious attention of more than a few individuals.

(C) Sericulture.

Large tracts of hill-land in Weihaiwei are covered with scrub oak (quercus serrata), the leaves of which are used for feeding the wild silk-worm. In 1903 it was stated by a botanical expert that about 35,000 acres in the Territory were so planted. Silk-weaving exists to a certain extent as a cottage industry, and during the past few years several silk-filatures have been established, but most of the raw silk is sent to Chefoo to be turned into the well-known Shantung pongee. The silk-stocking industry, however, is now a well-established one in Weihaiwei and meets with considerable success It is anticipated that sericulture in this Territory will in future derive considerable benefit from the excellent work now being done by the Chefoo Silk Improvement Commission, as the cultivators are beginning to learn that their industry is capable of great expansion with improved methods of cultivating the scrub-oak and utilising only disease-free silk-worm eggs, the latter of which are now easily obtainable.*

It has been observed by those interested in the silk trade of Shantung that there is an increasing and improved output of the white or mulberry-fed silk piecegoods, often known as "Chefoo white pongees." In Weihaiwei a beginning has been made of mulberry culture, and if this is persevered in the probability is that the silk industry of the Territory will make rapid progress and will contribute much more than it does at present to the export returns.

(D) Fisheries.

The sea-fishing industry in Weihaiwei is prosperous and profitable and is attracting capital, with the result that there is now a fleet of motor fishing boats employed in the industry and there is good reason to believe that with the adoption of up-to-date salting and ice-storage methods the export trade, which is already considerable, will undergo a great expansion. Salted fish from Weihaiwei already finds a ready market in Shanghai and Hong Kong. The year 1927 was the best year for the fishing industry in Weihaiwei for at least ten years.

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* The Chefoo Silk Improvement Commission was founded in 1920 "for the purpose of improving all local silk products with the idea of increasing the trade and prosperity of the country in general."

(E) Mining.

Some attempts were made, in the early days of the British occupation, to prospect for minerals in the Territory. Gold exists in small quantities, and between 1904 and 1906 the Weihaiwei Gold-mining Company, with a capital of $300,000, installed a 20-stamp mill with a capacity of 2,500 tons a month. At one time 400 Chinese were employed at the mine. In 1906, however, the attempt to extract gold in paying quantities was given up as hopeless and the Company went into liquidation. Many prospecting licences were taken out both by the Gold-mining Company and private individuals, but the results were meagre.

(F) Salt.

This commodity is produced by evaporation in the lagoons on the coast in quantities that now so far exceed local requirements that nearly 70 per cent. of the total amount produced is exported. As salt is in China a Government monopoly its import into Chinese ports from Weihaiwei is prohibited by the Chinese authorities; but there are large shipments, from time to time, to Hong Kong, Korea, and Japan. The actual amount exported varies greatly from year to year, as it depends on the fluctuations of market prices and other conditions in the importing ports. The following are the export figures for the last six years:—

	Piculs.
1922	259,468
1923	724,832
1924	68,656
1925	148,348
1926	195,919
1927	46,898

The salt-pan area has enormously increased since the British occupation began. In 1902 it was less than 30 acres in extent. In 1921 it was estimated at 600 acres; it is now nearly 6,000 *mu* or 1,000 acres. The number of salt-pans is about 360.

(G) Lace-making.

This is a thriving minor industry in the leased Territory. It was introduced by the Roman Catholic Convent, which has trained and is still training large numbers of village girls both in the art of designing and in practical bobbin-work. Many of these girls now work for Chinese employers, and produce an article which is highly prized by visitors to the Territory. (See also Section XI.)

(H) Bricks and Tiles.

The manufacture of these was in 1927 perhaps the most prosperous of the local industries, owing to the activity in the building trade, especially in the Port Edward area.

(I) Miscellaneous.

Various small industries have sprung into existence to meet the demands of visitors to Weihaiwei. Among these may be mentioned the making of tea-sets (pottery and pewter), walking-sticks inlaid with silver and pewter, and model junks.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Eight hundred and fifty-eight merchant steamers with a total tonnage of 1,029,478 tons called at Port Edward during 1927, as compared with 838 steamers with a tonnage of 943,361 in 1926. The majority of the steamers were British (395), but the Japanese followed fairly closely with 312. Chinese steamers were 122, German 14, Norwegian 5, American and Dutch 4 each, Danish and Italian 1 each.

Junks numbered 1,670 inward and 452 outward, as compared with 1,299 and 434 in 1926.

The volume of shipping has gradually increased during the British occupation from very modest beginnings. In 1902 (the first year for which shipping records were properly kept) the steamers entering the port numbered only 146, with a total tonnage of 151,809. In 1903 the Shipping Dues accounted for $1,067 of the Government revenue. In the year under review they had risen to $83,752, and a very considerable expansion is anticipated in the immediate future.

A noteworthy increase has taken place recently in the direct shipment of agricultural produce, preponderantly groundnuts, to America and Europe. This trade is mainly in the hands of British ocean-going steamers. The growth in the trade in groundnuts may be gauged from the fact that in 1903 the export amounted to the modest total of 475 piculs. In 1910 it had risen to 141,293 piculs, and in the year under review to about 363,000 piculs, valued at $3,626,458.

The total volume of trade in 1927 amounted to 1,691,843 units valued at $17,650,100, as compared with 1,632,827 and $15,794,586, respectively, in 1926.

The total volume of imports was valued at $11,182,989, and exports at $6,467,112. The excess value of imports over exports is therefore $4,715,877.

The movement of merchandise is shown in the following summary :—

	Imports. $	*Exports.* $	*Increase or decrease on 1926.* $
Bean cakes	322,530	4,040	+ 200,352
Bean oil	79,170	4,640	+ 54,050
Cigarettes and tobacco	495,770	75,925	+ 212,251
Coal	160,973	4,896	— 976
Cotton, raw and yarn	1,327,080	2,485	—1,092,825
Flour	364,190	9,209	— 1,227
Piecegoods	2,221,800	15,400	— 356,400
Gunny bags	197,100	17,700	— 132,120
Paper	151,281	3,832	+ 26,519
Provisions	243,805	14,570	+ 99,435
Rice	982,920	104,700	+ 445,128
Sugar and sugar cane	320,610	93,702	+ 123,422
Indian corn	411,961	17,956	+ 132,481
Fish, salt or dried	291,720	331,380	+ 32,560
Groundnuts and kernels	459,920	4,086,378	+ 723,347
Groundnut oil	769,128	1,096,296	— 2,634
Millet	122,868	11,760	+ 20,070
Kerosene oil	198,670	643	+ 94,660
Chinese wines	435,848	4,872	+ 118,346
Eggs	12,372	114,144	— 21,328

Business as a whole was good and suffered no direct loss from the civil war, though other ports in Shantung were very adversely affected. Some of the local Chinese firms were hard hit owing to losses sustained through their agents in Hong Kong and Tientsin in connection with a heavy fall in the price of rice—the result of an exceptionally good rice-crop in South China. Trade was injuriously affected to some extent by the strike of the officers of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire's coasting vessels and the consequent inadequacy of shipping facilities for two or three months. On the other hand, local trade and industry received a welcome stimulus from the presence of a considerable body of British troops and an unusually large number of British men-of-war.

Of the cotton goods imported into the Territory, it is estimated that about 90 per cent. comes from Japan. English cotton, though superior in quality, cannot compete with the cheaper Japanese article. The following quotation from a recent Chefoo report gives some indication of the present position. "Japanese cotton-goods manufacturers have been making important headway in the Chinese market at the expense of the English industry. The Japanese manufacturers have borrowed everything from Britain including the most modern mechanical equipment and methods of distribution. Japanese imitations of new British designs appear on the Chinese market at lower prices within three or four weeks of their introduction by British traders."

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

(A) Roads.

The development of Weihaiwei has been hampered by inadequate means of internal communication and by the lack of roads and railways into the interior of the province. About 50 miles of roads in the Territory, fit for cart and carriage traffic, have been constructed by the British Government. These compare favourably with the 23 miles of mud roads which existed in 1902, but it must be confessed that there is still room for great improvement. None of the existing Government roads reaches the actual boundaries of the Territory, and there is no lateral communication between the two main roads. The roads are narrow and badly ballasted and the bridges are of cheap construction and not suitable for heavy traffic. Recognising the deficiencies of its road-system the Government has hitherto prohibited all motor traffic in Weihaiwei. An effort is now being made, with meagre financial resources, to remedy some of the worst defects. The total prohibition of motor traffic was temporarily suspended during 1927 in favour of the motor trucks and ambulances urgently needed by the military authorities, and it is intended to go a step further in 1928 by withdrawing the prohibition against the import of privately-owned light cars. The Government has itself made arrangements to purchase three motor-cycles with side-cars for the use of the police and the medical authorities, and though there are many parts of the Territory which will be beyond the reach of these vehicles it is anticipated that they will soon prove their usefulness and justify their purchase.

The Chinese inhabitants of the Territory are extremely appreciative of such roads as the Government has been able to construct, and many villages have united their resources for the purpose of providing additional roads of their own which, if not always suitable for motor or carriage traffic, are serviceable for country carts. These roads are improved and extended to some extent every year, and Government encourages the villagers concerned by occasional small grants of money.

(B) Telephones and Telegraphs.

Lack of financial resources is responsible for many defects in the administrative system of Weihaiwei. One of the most serious of these defects is the lack of telephonic communication with the various police posts. At present there are no telephones outside the Port Edward area and the Island. An urgent need is to connect Port Edward by telephone with the western frontier police post of Lu-tao-k'ou, as it is the western and south-western districts of the leased Territory that are most exposed to the menace of bandits.

For telegraphic communication with the outside world Weihaiwei is dependent on a Chinese-owned land-line to Chefoo, and on a temporary wireless installation erected by the military authorities during the summer of 1927. The British-owned cable, though still in existence and serviceable, has not been in use since the early part of 1923.

(C) Steamship Communications.

Steamship communication with Shanghai and Tientsin is regular and frequent, services of passenger and cargo steamers being maintained by the firms of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. There is also fairly frequent but irregular steamship communication with other ports such as Hong Kong, Tsingtao, Chefoo and Dairen.

(D) Lighthouses.

There are two lighthouses which were originally the property of the Chinese Maritime Customs Service and were bought by the British Government in 1901 for the cost price of their construction, slightly under £1,500. The Weihaiwei Government maintains these lighthouses and pays the salaries of the staff.

(E) Posts.

There are agencies of the Hong Kong Post Office at Port Edward and on the Island, and the stamps used are Hong Kong stamps surcharged "China." Foreign mails are carried by the shipping firms of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire in accordance with the terms of their mail contract with the Government of the leased Territory. Communication with Europe is by the Suez and Siberian routes. Letters from London to Weihaiwei by the sea route take on an average about 40 days in transit, those despatched by the Siberian route about 16 to 22 days. The Chinese Postal Administration has a branch in the walled city of Weihaiwei which usefully supplements the postal services conducted through the British office.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

(A) Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction.

The judicial system and procedure of Weihaiwei are laid down in the Weihaiwei Order in Council, 1901. Under this instrument, a High Court was established and a Judge appointed under His Majesty's Sign Manual. Hitherto the Judge of the High Court has been non-resident, and the post has been filled—for reasons of economy—by the Judge, Assistant Judge or Crown Advocate of His Majesty's Supreme Court in Shanghai. As his visits to

Weihaiwei are necessarily very rare—averaging one visit of three or four days in each calendar year—it was necessary to provide some means whereby the current civil and criminal work could be carried on with regularity and despatch : for though serious crime in Weihaiwei is comparatively rare (less rare, unhappily, than it used to be before the Revolution), the volume of civil litigation is very large. The powers of the Judge of the High Court were therefore conferred upon the Commissioner himself. The two Magistrates also exercise delegated judicial powers, but it is provided that the High Court (constituted either by the Commissioner or the Judge or by both—sitting together) has concurrent jurisdiction in the magisterial courts and may order any case, civil or criminal, pending before a Magistrate to be removed into the High Court.

Civil and criminal jurisdiction is exercised, so far as circumstances admit, on the principles of and in conformity with the Statute and other law of England; but in civil suits between Chinese the Court is allowed to follow Chinese law and custom so far as they are not repugnant to British conceptions of justice and morality.

Death sentences must be confirmed by the Commissioner, who also exercises the prerogative of pardon or commutation of sentence.

The number of civil suits commenced during 1927 was 281, as compared with 239 in 1926. With the exception of three of these cases, two of which were heard by the Judge and one by the Officer Administering the Government, all were dealt with by the Senior District Officer and Magistrate acting with the delegated powers of the High Court. The majority of the civil suits (143) were debt cases. Land and property disputes numbered 79. The other lawsuits were concerned with bankruptcies (17), matrimonial (18), and miscellaneous matters affecting Chinese village and family customs such as disputed adoptions.

Criminal and police cases numbered 998, as compared with 702 in 1926. The total number of convicted persons was 2,585, of whom 191 were sent to gaol and the remainder fined. Breaches of the Gambling and Opium Ordinances accounted for no fewer than 462 of the cases dealt with. Crime of a more serious nature was rather more prevalent than usual, largely owing to the influx of disorderly characters from Chinese territory. They included 2 cases of murder, 6 armed robberies, 18 cases of burglary and housebreaking, and 68 larceny cases.

All these cases were dealt with by the Junior District Officer and Magistrate with the exception of 13 of the more serious cases : namely, those concerned with murder, armed robbery, burglary, housebreaking, and rape. These were all heard by the Officer Administering the Government or Commissioner with the exception of one murder case which was heard by the Judge, Sir Peter

Grain. There was one conviction on a capital charge, but owing to the Jury's recommendation to mercy, which was endorsed by the Judge, the death sentence was commuted by the Commissioner to 10 years' penal servitude.

(B) Police.

The Police Force consists of three European Inspectors, 19 Chinese non-commissioned officers, and 142 men. One Inspector and 17 Chinese are stationed on the island of Liukung, and one Inspector and 56 Chinese at Port Edward; while the remainder of the Force is distributed among 13 posts in the interior and on the boundary. The increase in the reported cases of armed robbery, and the constant menace of banditry, which has become increasingly prevalent on the Chinese side of the boundary, necessitated the reinforcement of the border posts during the autumn. The addition of ten men brought the total strength of the Force up to the figures given above.

Though no serious complaints can be made against the Police as a body, the lack of adequate European supervision (owing to shortage of staff) is undoubtedly prejudicial to discipline, and it has unfortunately been necessary from time to time to punish or dismiss members of the Force for yielding to the many pecuniary temptations by which they are always surrounded. The successive increases in the pay of the Police have not kept pace with the steady rise in the price of food-stuffs, and a good deal of discontent exists in the Force on this account. It is hoped, however, that this cause of dissatisfaction will soon be removed.

(C) Prisons.

The Weihaiwei Prison is situated on the island of Liukung and is under the control of the Inspector of Police for the island, who is assisted by Chinese warders. There is accommodation for 70 male and 20 female prisoners. There is also a small temporary prison with seven cells at Port Edward.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

No new public works of any importance were undertaken during the year, but there was a considerable expenditure in much-needed repairs to bridges, roads, drains, and public buildings.

The most urgent need of the Territory in the sphere of public works is the extension and improvement of the road-system, a subject which has been dealt with in Section V. There are also much-needed harbour improvements which should be put in hand as soon as funds are available. A nucleus of such funds exists in the shape of the special Shipping Dues surtax which has already provided for the construction of "Victory Pier,"* and will it is hoped provide in similar manner for the construction of a breakwater and for foreshore reclamation.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH, ETC.

(A) Public Health.

During 1927 Weihaiwei maintained its reputation as one of the healthiest places on the coast of China. There were no epidemics among the Chinese, and apart from a small outbreak of whooping-cough among the European child visitors—an outbreak which originated in an imported case—and a few cases of typhoid among the troops from Shanghai, the origin of which was not definitely ascertained, the health of the foreign community was excellent.

The total number of Chinese patients who attended the three Government hospitals (those at Port Edward, Wên-Ch'üan-t'ang in the heart of the Territory, and on the Island) was 18,613, of whom 304 were in-patients.

Kala-azar, a disease which is somewhat prevalent in the Territory, is being successfully treated by the latest method--intravenous injections of antimony tartrate. Most of the cases occur among children under 15. Adult cases are comparatively rare. Out of 96 cases treated in 1927, only 6 were over 40 years of age.

Leprosy is a disease which occurs in most parts of China, including the province of Shantung. In this Territory there are at present about 70 cases. It is hoped that it will soon be found possible to provide means for the erection and maintenance of a small Leper Home in which sufferers from this disease will be given the new 'Alepol treatment (intravenous hydnocarpate injections) which has been attended by remarkably beneficial results elsewhere. The Medical Officers of the Territory are also giving their attention to the apparently accidental discovery recently made in India that the recognised treatment of kala-azar has a beneficial effect not only on that disease but also on leprosy. As both diseases occur in this Territory, there seems to be a field for investigation of which the Medical Officers will readily avail themselves.

Reference has been made in Section I to the temporary military hospital maintained at Weihaiwei during the summer for the benefit of the officers and men of the Shanghai Defence Force. The hospital contained 50 beds. Four deaths occurred among the British troops, the causes being typhoid, heatstroke, drowning, and kidney disease.

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* Opened in 1918. See Annual Report for that year (No. 999 in the series).

A much greater number of men-of-war were stationed at Weihaiwei during the summer months than in former years, owing to the presence in Far Eastern waters of ships of the First Cruiser and other squadrons in addition to the China fleet. Very few cases of sickness were reported by the naval medical authorities; and the few cases of dysentery (7), and malaria (5), which came under treatment all originated in southern ports.

A scheme is at present under consideration for the establishment of an improved water supply for Port Edward. If this can be carried out it will remove one of the most serious of existing menaces to the health of the community—the danger of contamination from water drawn by buckets or tins from shallow wells, the only present source of supply.

(B) Meteorological.

The year was exceptionally dry, only 19.83 inches of rain falling, as compared with 37.12 inches in 1926. The average for the previous 20 years was 27 inches. The wettest year during that period was 1914 with 47.7 inches, the dryest 1918 with 15.5 inches. No rain fell on 299 days of the year under review.

The highest shade temperature recorded was 101° F. in July. This constitutes a record for Weihaiwei since observations began to be taken. The maximum reading in former years was 99°, in 1922. The summer of 1927 was, indeed, an exceptionally hot one throughout North China. In Peking the shade temperature is said to have reached 114°. The lowest temperature recorded in Weihaiwei during 1927 was 8° F. in January. The lowest in the history of the Territory is 1° in 1913.

The highest barometer reading was 30.74 in November and the lowest 29.47 in April, the monthly range varying from 1.24 in November to 0.47 in June.

(C) Population.

A census of the population has been twice taken during the 29 years of British administration, namely, in 1911 and 1921. In the former year the population was found to number 147,177; in the latter it had risen to 154,416. Since 1921 there has been a somewhat rapid development of the Territory and a considerable further increase of population has taken place—an increase which must be partly ascribed to the influx of refugees and others who have found the tranquillity and orderly administration of Weihaiwei preferable to the unrest, banditry, over-taxation and general misgovernment which have prevailed in the province of Shantung during the past decade. According to a rough estimate, the present population of the Territory is about 175,000. This includes the foreign residents who during the winter months (when the foreign population is reduced to a minimum) number barely one hundred. The following table shows the exact number of foreign residents in Weihaiwei (irrespective of the small British military and naval forces) at the end of 1927, together with their respective nationalities.

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
British	44	28	72
French	1	1	2
Italian	1	3	4
Canadian	1	—	1
Belgian	1	2	3
German	2	2	4
Spanish	—	1	1
Hungarian	—	1	1
Korean	5	8	13
Totals	55	46	101

It should be mentioned that the Canadian and non-British European members of the community (except Germans) are attached to the Roman Catholic Mission and Convent.

It may be observed that Weihaiwei, with an area of less than 300 square miles, has a population which is not far short of that of Tasmania (over 26,000 square miles) and nearly two-thirds that of British Guiana, a Colony which is as large as the United Kingdom. The latter Colony has less than 4 persons to the square mile, Canada and Australia about 2; whereas Weihaiwei with 620 inhabitants to the square mile is not very far behind England and Wales with their 650. For an agricultural district Weihaiwei has a population which in Europe would be regarded as astonishly high and the figure is all the more striking when it is remembered that a considerable part of the Territory consists of uninhabited and uncultivated hill-lands and sandy wastes. It was estimated by the Census Officer in 1921 that not more than two-fifths of the Territory is arable; nevertheless, as he pointed out, the acre-yield is extraordinary. This, together with the frugality of the people and the simplicity of their lives, accounts for the land being able to support so dense a population.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Hampered by lack of funds, the achievements of the British administration in the sphere of education have been insignificant. There is no Educational Department, and Government inspection is limited to the exercise of a slight supervision over the only school which owes its existence to Government initiative. This is the Huang Jên School for boys at Port Edward, which is maintained by Government at a cost of about $3,600 a year and provides a free education for nearly 200 day pupils.

There are several other schools in Port Edward which were founded and are maintained by various missionary bodies. These are the Anglican Mission School for boys, with about 80 pupils, of whom 37 are boarders; St. Joseph's Catholic School for boys, with 264 pupils, of whom 30 are boarders; the Convent School for girls, under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Mission, with about 60 day pupils; and the Port Edward School for girls conducted by a group of Protestant missionaries. None of these schools receives financial or other assistance from the Government.

Three schools have been founded and are maintained by local merchants and other Chinese residents. One of these is a small school on the Island, with about 50 pupils. Another is the Shu Tê school for girls, which was originally established in connection with an anti-footbinding movement. The third is a more ambitious and promising institution than any of those already mentioned—namely the Ch'i Tung Middle School for boys. This school, which is at present attended by about 100 students and is staffed by Chinese University graduates, derives part of its maintenance fund from a small voluntary surtax on the land-tax, but is mainly dependent on public subscription. It is provided by Government with free quarters or a cash payment in lieu of quarters, and it is hoped that the progress of the school will justify the Government in granting it a small annual subsidy. The claims of this school to a grant or subsidy from the British China Indemnity Fund were brought to the notice of Lord Willingdon's Indemnity Delegation which visited China in 1926, and the school is included in the list of possible beneficiaries which appears in the Delegation's Report. The Appendix to the Report contains the following reference to the school. "As the British Government has announced its intention of returning Weihaiwei to China, and rendition is likely to take place in the near future, there is a strong feeling among the Chinese residents that Great Britain's friendly act of renunciation should be commemorated in some permanent manner, and that no more suitable form of commemoration could be devised than the endowment of this school out of funds which are also being relinquished by Great Britain in favour of China. Both the rendition of the Territory and the return of the balance of the Indemnity are acts which Great Britain has voluntarily undertaken to carry out in order to show her good will to China, and it would be highly satisfactory if these two voluntary acts of renunciation could be linked together in some such striking and appropriate manner as that suggested." It is hoped that when the time comes to allocate the Indemnity funds the claims of this school in particular, or of Weihaiwei educational interests in general, will not be overlooked.

A large number of the villages of the leased Territory support small old-fashioned schools of their own, but these schools are attended only by a small fraction of the children of school age. The great majority of the boys and girls of Weihaiwei grow up without any education at all. Those inhabitants of the Territory who can read and write were returned in the 1921 Census as 13,966, of whom only 227 were females. 34 per cent. of the males of school age were said to be undergoing an education of some kind, but only a small proportion of the pupils remain at school long enough to derive much permanent benefit from such education as the village teachers are capable of imparting.

The important question of education is one to which the Government of the leased Territory, with slender financial resources and an inadequate administrative staff, has hitherto devoted insufficient attention. It is hoped that if the rendition of the Territory does not take place in the immediate future, means may be found to remedy this defect in the British administration of the Territory.

The Weihaiwei School for boys of European race, which flourished for many years, was closed in 1925. No educational institution for children of European parentage now exists in the Territory. In view of the excellence of the climate and the well-known healthiness of the Territory, this fact is to be deplored.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

Under the Weihaiwei Order in Council of 1901, provision was made for the establishment of a Land Commission to deal with questions relating to the titles, tenures, occupancy and assessment of lands in the leased Territory. Very little has been done, however, to carry out the duties assigned to the Commission, and the only decisions arrived at with reference to the delimitation and ownership of lands have been based on ordinary judgments of the Court following on land disputes between private individuals or between the Government on one side and private individuals or village communities on the other.

The work of a Land Commission could hardly be carried to a successful conclusion without a cadastral survey of the Territory, the cost of which has hitherto been regarded as prohibitive. An aerial survey would doubtless be feasible and not very costly, and if circumstances necessitate a protracted postponement of the rendition of the Territory to China, such a survey may perhaps be considered desirable.

The land-tax levied by the Government is based on the very rough-and-ready system of assessment which was in vogue before the British occupation began. No attempt has been made—or could be made in the absence of a survey—to ensure that each cultivated plot of land pays its proper tax In practice, land-tax in Weihaiwei is practically a village assessment, and the village headman is held responsible for paying the total amount due from the community which he represents. The tax is paid willingly and without any expense of collection, for Chinese farmers are in the habit of regarding the payment of land-tax as one of their best and safest proofs of land-ownership; though they would be hard put to it, in most cases, to show that each plot of land which they cultivate pays neither less nor more than the correct amount. Undoubtedly, a survey would reveal the fact that a great deal of cultivated land paid no tax at all; on the other hand there are many persons who continue to pay land-tax on property which has long passed out of their hands. In China there is very little exactitude about the assessment and levy of taxes, and innumerable land transfers are accompanied or followed by disputes about land-tax liabilities which frequently lead to troublesome lawsuits and to the bewilderment of the unlucky Magistrate (Chinese or British) before whom they come for settlement.

In the early days of the British occupation it was believed that the Territory possessed considerable mineral wealth, and numerous prospecting licences were taken out. The results, however, were disappointing. The subject is dealt with in Section III (E).

The increasing prosperity of the port is reflected in the rapid increase of urban land-values. In 1902, land on the outskirts of Port Edward was sold for $20 a *mu* (one-sixth of an acre). In 1921 it was assessed at $200 to $800 a *mu*.* At present, such land changes hands at $1,300, and for building-sites with a sea frontage there is keen competition among buyers at even higher prices.

XI.—LABOUR.

The supply of skilled and unskilled labour in Weihaiwei is abundant and still comparatively cheap. But there is a tendency for all wages to increase owing to the rising price of food-stuffs, mainly the result of chaotic political conditions and misgovernment in Shantung. A desire for a higher standard of living is also becoming apparent, and foreign goods which till recently were regarded by the labouring classes as unattainable luxuries are being gradually added to their list of necessaries.

There are no local labour unions or organisations, and no difficulties have hitherto arisen through strikes. The Territory has been visited from time to time by unwelcome guests in the shape of communist agents—Koreans disguised as Chinese and others—but the seed scattered by these people has hitherto fallen on stony ground. Weihaiwei is a most unpromising field for the dissemination of communistic ideas. The population consists very largely of small peasant proprietors who are strongly attached to their little holdings, which in innumerable cases they have inherited from their remote ancestors. There is no primogeniture and all the males of a family have a right to participate in the ancestral property. A large proportion of the people inhabit villages of one surname only, and their ancestral temples and clan-and till the same fields that were owned by their forefathers in the Ming, Yuan or even the Sung dynasties. Families that have graveyards contain evidence that they occupy the same district authentic pedigrees going back for five hundred years or more are very common; and though they are poor in material wealth, according to Western standards, their family pride, their intense conservatism and their attachment to the ethical and social traditions and teachings of their ancestors constitute a very strong bulwark against innovation.

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* See Annual Report for 1921, pp. 4 and 14 (No. 1118 in the series).

In some respects this bulwark is an impediment to progress. In the matter of female footbinding, for example, the British administration has tried by every means short of force to induce the people to abandon this thoroughly bad and cruel custom; but proclamations and exhortations have had very little effect except in the case of a limited number of schoolgirls in Port Edward who have been allowed by their parents to unbind their feet as the only alternative to being debarred from the benefits of a good and cheap education. It is indeed not surprising that the British Government has not been successful in abolishing the practice of footbinding, seeing that even the edicts of the Manchu emperors, issued at a time when the power and prestige of the late dynasty was at its height, completely failed to exterminate this evil custom. Nevertheless, educated Chinese opinion is now growing more and more opposed to it, and it is also denounced and discouraged by the Nationalist leaders, notably by General Fêng Yü-hsiang, so there is good reason to hope that the practice will become extinct within a reasonable period.

This matter has a direct bearing on labour questions in China, for the beginnings of industrialism are causing an ever-increasing number of Chinese girls and women to look for employment in factories; and women who have to walk considerable distances every day to their places of employment inevitably feel the handicap of bound feet much more severely than did their mothers, who rarely left the immediate neighbourhood of their homes on foot and were indeed sternly discouraged from doing so by the unwritten laws of womanly propriety. Even in Weihaiwei, which can hardly be described as an important industrial centre, hundreds of women are now employed in shops and small factories. Lace-making, sericulture, embroidery, and the hair-net industry occupy the time of a large proportion of these women. Lace-making owes its establishment in Weihaiwei to the initiative of the Roman

Catholic nuns, but large numbers of the girls trained in the Convent now work for Chinese employers. Women are also employed in certain branches of the groundnut industry and in stocking factories. In unskilled labour women are not very prominent, though they are employed in the lighter tasks—such as grinding flour—connected with agriculture; but the sedentary and perhaps uninteresting occupation of stone-breaking tends to be a feminine business in Weihaiwei, for the persons who are employed by the Government road contractor in providing him with road-metal are almost exclusively village women and young girls.

In the last Census Report (1921) it was stated that two-thirds of the males over nine years of age were employed on the land. That may be taken as approximately true to-day, and it may be added that the land on which they work is generally land of which they themselves are actual or prospective owners or in which they have an interest (perhaps owing to clan-ties) which is more than that of mere wage-earners.

According to the same Report, 8½ per cent. of males over nine are employed in mercantile pursuits and shopkeeping; 1 per cent. in textile trades; 4 per cent. in the conveyance of goods and persons; and 6½ per cent. in the building trade. At present the percentage of males employed in building may be slightly larger than 6½ per cent., for Port Edward is expanding rapidly and builders are kept very busy. It should be observed, however, that nearly all the men employed in building are temporarily recruited from the villages and are farmers before they are builders. The villagers of Weihaiwei are well able to combine the two occupations, for they are accustomed to build and repair their own houses as well as to till their own fields.

In the Census Report only 933 persons were shown in the occupational returns as "Coolies." But it was pointed out that very often as many as 1,500 men may be seen discharging a single collier. These men are all farmers, and when they have finished their work of unloading ships they, like the house-builders, return to the little plots of land which they regard as their permanent source of livelihood.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The following notes on the administration of the Territory under British rule may be of interest.

The Anglo-Chinese Convention under which the Territory was leased to Great Britain was signed on 1st July, 1898. A provisional administration was established under a British naval officer appointed by and responsible to the Naval Commander-in-chief on the China Station. In 1899 the administration was transferred to the War Office and in 1900 to the Colonial Office. Under the Colonial Office the Territory has been administered by a Commissioner whose position and authority are similar to those of Governors of Crown Colonies and who holds his commission direct from His Majesty the King.

The following are the names of the officers by whom the Territory has been administered since the begininng of the British occupation :—

1st July, 1898, to 9th August, 1899 : Commander Gaunt, R.N., now Admiral Sir E. F. A. Gaunt, K.C.B.

10th August, 1899, to 10th December, 1901 : Colonel Dorward, R.E., now Major-General Sir Arthur Dorward, K.C.B. (From 1st January, 1900, the Territory was placed under the control of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who retained Colonel Dorward's services and appointed him first civil Commissioner under a Royal Commission.)

11th December, 1901, to 2nd May, 1902 : Acting Commissioner, Major Cowan, R.E.

3rd May, 1902, to 22nd April, 1921 : Commissioner Mr. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., formerly Colonial Secretary of Hong Kong, now Sir J. H. Stewart Lockhart, K.C.M.G., LL.D.

23rd April, 1921, to 3rd November, 1923 : Officer Administering the Government : Mr. A. P. Blunt, C.M.G.

4th November, 1923, to 29th March, 1927 : Officer Administering the Government : Mr. W. Russell Brown.

1st April, 1927 : Commissioner Mr. R. F. Johnston, C.B.E.

Next year (1928) will see the completion of thirty years of the British occupation of Weihaiwei.

R. F. JOHNSTON.
Commissioner.

(2876—21) Wt. 12343—915 625 11/28 P. St. G. 7/8

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WEIHAIWEI.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1928.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

Historical, Geographical and Descriptive.

The leased territory of Weihaiwei, which has been administered by Great Britain since 1898, is situated in the north-east corner of the Chinese province of Shantung, about 40 miles (by sea) east of the treaty port of Chefoo. The area (including the Island of Liukung) extends to 285 square miles, and supports a population which at the last census (in 1921) was ascertained to be 154,177 but is now estimated at about 180,000. The increase is mainly due to the influx of refugees from other parts of the province, who having found the conditions of life intolerable under the gross misgovernment which has prevailed in Shantung during the past few years, have been glad to find peace and security and a sympathetic administration under the British flag.

The area of the territory of Weihaiwei is smaller than that of the Colony of Hong Kong (including the New Territories) by about 100 square miles ; it is about 119 square miles larger than the Colony of Barbados, and has a slightly larger population ; it contains a greater number of people than the Colony of Fiji and only about 30,000 less than Tasmania ; it is about 58 square miles larger than the Isle of Man, with a population greater by more than 100,000.

These statistics have no reference to the much greater area (estimated at about 1,500 square miles) over which Great Britain possesses certain military rights which she has never found it necessary to exercise.

There are over 350 villages in the territory, but the only port is the former Chinese village of Ma-t'ou, now the thriving town of Port Edward, which is the administrative centre.

Although Weihaiwei is regularly visited in the summer months by the British fleet on the China station, it is not a naval base and is unfortified. The old Chinese forts (constructed under German superintendence in the last quarter of the nineteenth century), which for a few days resisted the Japanese attack in the war of 1894–95, have been dismantled.

In 1901 the leased territory, which had been administered first by naval and then by military officers, was transferred to the Colonial Office, and has since been governed (in accordance with the provisions of an Order in Council) by a civil Commissioner appointed by the Crown and directly responsible to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Adjacent to Port Edward there is a small walled town which has always remained under Chinese jurisdiction though it is completely surrounded by British-administered territory. According to the terms of the Weihaiwei Convention, that Chinese jurisdiction was made subject to, and was limited by, British naval and military requirements for the defence of the leased territory. The relations between the Chinese magistrate of the walled town and the British authorities of the territory have been almost uniformly amicable.

The language spoken by the Chinese of Weihaiwei is a dialect of northern "Mandarin" (now known as the National Language), easily intelligible to those who are acquainted with the former "Court" dialect of Peking.

The currency consists of silver dollars (Mexican, Chinese, and British) and Chinese subsidiary silver and copper coinage. The notes of the British banks operating in China are current, and are supplemented by local notes of small denomination (one-dollar and *tiao* notes representing 1,000 copper cash) issued by Chinese trading firms under the supervision and control of the local Chambers of Commerce. In their dealings with one another the people use the ordinary Chinese weights and measures, but the merchants have acquired a knowledge of British standards as well, and make use of them in their dealings with the local Government and with foreign traders.

The following Report deals with the calendar year 1928, except in respect of finance. The financial year begins on 1st April, and for statistical and other purposes it is convenient to give in the Annual Report facts and figures relating to the whole of that year. Section II. therefore, which concerns finance only, deals with the financial year ending on 31st March, 1929.

I.—General Observations.

In the last Annual Report it was observed that the year 1927 was regarded by the Chinese as one of the most disastrous Shantung had known since 1867, when the province was overrun and laid waste by the Nien Fei rebels. There was very little, if any, improvement during the greater part of 1928, when millions of the long-suffering people of Shantung continued to groan under the miseries of civil war, banditry and famine. The little territory of Weihaiwei continued to be a haven of tranquillity for numerous refugees, many of whom have announced their intention of making Weihaiwei their home as long as it remains under British rule. In the circumstances, it is not surprising that the local Chinese newspaper went so far as to describe the territory as a " Peach Garden " (*t'ao yuan*) —the Chinese equivalent of " An Earthly Paradise." One English-speaking Chinese—a prominent mining engineer and manager of a coal mine in the province of Chihli (now Ho-pei)—who built a house in Weihaiwei where his family may dwell in peace and safety while he is trying to save his coal mine from the depredations and machinations of communists and militarists, has gone a step further than the local newspaper, for he has been heard to declare that Weihaiwei is not merely a " haven " but " Heaven."

The relations between the British authorities and the local Chinese population are most friendly and harmonious. Even during the anti-British movement in China artificially stirred up by agitators acting under foreign instigation in the years 1925–26, all subversive propaganda fell on deaf ears. The people of Weihaiwei were too well acquainted, through direct personal experience, with the British Government and its methods, to give credit to the wild stories circulated elsewhere in China regarding the alleged enormities of British " imperialism." The attempts that have been made, from time to time, by professional agitators, to stimulate anti-British hate have met with complete failure.

1st July, 1928, was the thirtieth anniversary of the signing of the Weihaiwei Convention, by which the territory of Weihaiwei was leased to the British Crown. This date has recently been included in the long list of " Humiliation Days " on which the Chinese have been enjoined to demonstrate their loyalty to China and their detestation of foreign " imperialism " ; but so far the inhabitants of Weihaiwei have allowed the day to pass unnoticed. Chinese patriots—or the organisers of Chinese patriotic movements —do not seem to have realised that the true cause of humiliation in connection with Weihaiwei is not the fact of the lease to Great Britain, but the fact that the inhabitants of the territory should be anxious for the British administration to be maintained. British residents in Weihaiwei and elsewhere in China would be the first to welcome any real evidence that the people of Weihaiwei were harbouring or manifesting any genuine (apart from an artificially stimulated) desire to return to the Chinese fold ; for it would be a sure indication that the long period of anarchy in Shantung was drawing to a close and that an era of peace and decent government was about to be inaugurated. The Chinese of Weihaiwei are no less patriotic than their fellow-countrymen elsewhere, nor has the alien Government of the leased territory ever desired or attempted to quench their patriotism. It would be unreasonable to expect them—probably no Englishman in China does expect them—to prefer British to Chinese rule if under the latter they could be assured of being allowed to live under the same tranquil and orderly conditions that they have experienced for thirty years under the British flag.

There was a short period—in the early days of the British occupation—when the attitude of the people was by no means so friendly as it has since become. The recent death (on 12th April, 1927) of Brigadier Cooper Penrose, C.B., C.M.G., who as a major in the Royal Engineers was stationed in Weihaiwei in 1900, recalls a highly disagreeable episode which took place in May of that year—the year of the "Boxer" rising. Major Penrose and his little party, who were engaged in the delimitation of the frontier, observed that "the native population was sullen," but they were taken wholly unawares when they were suddenly assailed with "sticks and large stones." The major himself was "hit from behind with a stone and beaten with sticks while semi-conscious, and prodded with bayonets." The episode took place not far from the market-village of Ts'ao-Miao-tzŭ, near the centre of the southern boundary of the territory ; and although one of the leaders of the attacking party was a prominent native of this village—a man who is still alive and has served as a headman under the present administration—there is now no village in the territory which supports the British administration more enthusiastically than Ts'ao-Miao-tzŭ.

Not many miles from the scene of this brutal attack on a gallant British officer, villagers of the border-districts have in more recent years erected stone tablets on which they have spontaneously borne public testimony to their gratitude for the peace and security enjoyed by them under British rule. One of the inscriptions is to the effect that during the troubles of the first year of the Republic (1912), when flames were going up from burning villages just beyond the frontier, those who had the good fortune to dwell on the British side of the border continued to enjoy uninterrupted tranquillity and safety. Similar testimonials to the benefits received from British rule have been erected by grateful refugees in Port Edward.

The economic prosperity that was referred to in the last Annual Report was maintained throughout the year under review, and the revenue was the highest in the history of the territory. This subject will be dealt with in detail in Sections II—IV. There was a serious drought in the early part of the year, which threatened not only a total failure of crops but also a water famine. For three months—April to June—the rainfall amounted to only a quarter of an inch, and many of the village wells ran dry. Fortunately the rain which began to fall on 6th July saved the territory from disaster, though it did not come soon enough to prevent a failure of the wheat harvest.

There has been no cessation in building activity in Port Edward, which is beginning to assume the appearance of a busy and populous little town. In 1898 it consisted of two or three streets of mean hovels, and its only importance lay in the fact that it was the port of the walled town of Weihaiwei. That so-called "city"—which, as stated in the Prefatory Note, was left by treaty under Chinese jurisdiction—is completely stagnant, and is no larger than it was thirty years ago. Most of the merchants have abandoned it and have built business premises and private houses in Port Edward.

During the summer of 1928, as in the preceding year, detachments from the Shanghai Defence Force were stationed at Weihaiwei, and the military convalescent camp was fully occupied for several months. Among the troops which spent a portion of the summer in Weihaiwei were the first battalion of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, the second battalion of the Suffolk Regiment, and the second battalion of the Welch Regiment. A company of the second battalion of the Royal Scots (the Royal Regiment) arrived early in November to take up garrison duty for the winter.

The relations between the British troops and the civilian population were, as usual, excellent. An interesting indication of this happy state of affairs was given early in the year, when the officers of "B" Company of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire battalion (which garrisoned the territory during the winter 1927–28) presented a silver cup, suitably inscribed, to the Chinese community. The cup has been placed in the hall of the local Chinese Chamber of Commerce as a permanent memorial of the friendly relationship uniformly maintained between the garrison and the Chinese residents. Not to be outdone in courtesy, the Chinese shortly afterwards reciprocated by presenting the same company with a handsome silver tripod—a product of local craftsmanship.

The British fleet on the China Station, under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Reginald Y. Tyrwhitt, Bart., K.C.B., D.S.O., D.C.L., paid its usual summer visit to Weihaiwei and there held its annual Regatta.

The King's Birthday was celebrated by a naval and military parade and march past, which was witnessed by a throng of interested Chinese spectators of whom a large proportion were schoolboys. The troops under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel J. P. Tredennick, D.S.O., O.B.E., consisted of the 1st battalion of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, and the Navy was represented by detachments from H.M.S. *Curlew*. The Commissioner was supported at the saluting base by Captain H. C. Allen, R.N. (H.M.S. *Curlew*), and Captain J. B. Glencross, D.S.O., R.N. (H.M.S. *Titania*). The same day was selected for the formal opening ceremony of a new public park at the east end of Port Edward, where the Commissioner entertained a representative gathering of foreign and Chinese residents. Special emphasis was laid by him on the fact that the park was open to all, without distinction of race or nationality.

On 5th December the new buildings of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce were formally opened by the Commissioner, who in his speech referred to the steadily increasing prosperity and commercial activity of Port Edward in recent years, of which the erection of this handsome building was a significant indication.

The introduction of motor traffic, which had hitherto been absolutely prohibited by the local Administration for various good and bad (predominantly bad) reasons, was perhaps the most notable and conspicuous innovation witnessed by Weihaiwei during 1928. There are now regular motor-bus services from one end of the territory to the other to the great convenience and satisfaction of the people; and it is hoped that it will soon be possible to travel by motor-car not only to the neighbouring Chinese towns of Wên-têng, Jung-ch'eng, and Shih-tao, but also to Mou-p'ing (Ninghai) and Chefoo.

The news of the serious illness of His Majesty the King was received in Weihaiwei with the utmost consternation and regret, and on 9th December the Commissioner, at the request of the British and Chinese community, addressed the following telegram to the Secretary of State for the Colonies :—" The Government and people of Weihaiwei, Chinese as well as British, are grateful to you for the daily telegraphic bulletins regarding His Majesty's illness, the course of which they follow with the deepest sympathy and anxiety. They desire me to convey to His Majesty through you an expression of their loyal devotion and respect and their earnest hopes for His Majesty's speedy recovery."

II.—Finance.*

The following table gives the totals of net revenue and expenditure for the six years ending with the financial year 1928–29 :—

	1923–24. $	1924–25. $	1925–26. $	1926–27. $	1927–28. $	1928–29. $
Revenue ...	198,865	189,554	219,142	240,763	256,494	324,628
Expenditure ...	200,566	179,944	187,432	214,331	247,014	313,228
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure	—	9,610	31,710	26,432	9,480	11,400

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* For the purposes of this section only, this Report deals with the financial year 1928–29, which closed on 31st March, 1929,

Although the revenue collected in the year under review fell short of the estimate by $16,091 (the estimate was $340,719), it was $68,134 more than that collected in 1927–28 and was by far the highest in the history of the territory. The increase was not due only to the expansion of trade, but also to a revised scale of shipping dues, the adoption of improved methods of supervising and collecting taxes, and the removal of the embargo on motor traffic. Licences for motor-vehicles, motor drivers and garages were issued in 1928 for the first time. The revenue would have exceeded the estimate had it not been for the serious effects of a very severe drought in the early summer of 1928, the continuance of civil war and political uncertainties, an unforeseen slump in the groundnut trade, and the unrest and poverty which prevailed throughout the year in the districts bordering on the territory.

The following figures show the difference between the estimated and the actual revenue for 1928–29 under the four main heads :—

	Estimated Revenue for 1928–29.	*Actual Revenue for* 1928–29.	*Difference between Actual and Estimated Revenue.*
	$	$	$
Licences and Internal Revenue	292,819	274,763	—18,056
Fees of Court, etc.	23,600	27,146	+ 3,546
Rents of Government Property, etc.	10,000	9,939	— 61
Interest and Miscellaneous ...	14,300	12,780	— 1,520
Totals	340,719	324,628	—16,091

In addition to general revenue there are special assessments or surtaxes on shipping dues and land tax for harbour improvements and educational purposes. The shipping dues surtax in 1928–29 amounted to $15,867 and the educational surtax to $2,464. Thus the gross revenue collected by Government during the financial year 1928–29 amounted to $342,959.

It is estimated that the revenue for 1929–30, irrespective of the special assessments, will reach $355,215 ; but it has to be borne in mind that owing to the chaotic state of the province of Shantung, the absence of a settled and stable Government, the ever-present possibility of a renewal of civil war, and other causes which can hardly be taken into consideration when the estimates are being prepared, no attempt to forecast the actual revenue of the territory can be regarded as much better than guesswork. Meanwhile it is satisfactory to note that the public revenue of the territory has increased from $4,077 in 1900–01 to $324,628 in 1928–29. There is no public debt.

For nearly twenty years of the British administration it was necessary to supplement the local revenue with an Imperial grant-in-aid. The total amount spent by His Majesty's Government in such grants reached the equivalent of £144,500. The first year in respect of which no grant was found to be necessary was 1916–17. Further grants were required in the three following years, but since 1921–22 the territory has been wholly self-supporting, and in 1928 the sum of $61,311, representing the unexpended portion of an Imperial grant which improved financial conditions had rendered unnecessary, was refunded to His Majesty's Treasury.

III.—Production.

(A) AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture is the principal industry in the territory and is engaged in by all but a small fraction of the population. Owing to the lack of capital and the small size of the holdings, farming methods and implements are still of a primitive description, but the acre-yield is very large and in intensive cultivation the local Chinese have little to learn from the West. The great majority of the cultivators are peasant-proprietors and have tilled their farms for generations. The principal crops are wheat, millet, barley, maize, kaoliang (tall millet), sweet potatoes, beans, and groundnuts.

As nearly the whole population of the territory is directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture for a living, the economic effects of the drought of 1928 (to which references are made elsewhere in this Report) were somewhat serious, though much less so than they would have been twenty years ago, when the people were still miserably poor and had no reserves to carry them over a lean year.

(B) FORESTRY.

Though there is a serious lack of timber in the territory, and wood for building purposes has to be imported, the Government has been unable to initiate or carry out any comprehensive scheme of forestation. Nevertheless the appearance of the island (where official control is much more easily exercised than on the mainland) has been transformed out of all recognition by the fir plantations with which the former bleak and barren hill-slopes are now covered.

(C) SERICULTURE.

In Weihaiwei the silk industry is an adjunct to agriculture. Most of the small farmers have " common " grazing or other rights over tracts of hill-land. Large parts of these tracts have been covered with scrub-oak (*quercus serrata*), on the leaves of which the wild silkworm is fed. Probably 100,000 acres of hill-land in the territory have been devoted to this useful purpose. Lack of the capital necessary for the establishment of filatures has hitherto prevented the farmers from taking more than a very modest share in the actual manufacture of silk, hence most of the cocoons still find their way to Chefoo.

Weihaiwei is already benefiting to some extent, and should benefit still more greatly hereafter, from the admirable work done for the silk industry of the province by the Chefoo Silk Improvement Commission. Some facts relating to this subject appeared in the Report for 1927. A British Consular Report (dated January, 1928) observes that "the continued work of the Commission is bound eventually to have the same effect as had the assistance given and efforts expended in Egypt in the wonderfully increased and improved quantity and quality of the fine staple cotton."

(D) FISHERIES.

Weihaiwei is gradually establishing a high reputation for its fish, and the industry is likely to show a marked development during the next few years owing to the introduction of motor fishing-boats. "Chefoo prawns"—greatly appreciated by Europeans and Chinese alike—might just as well be described as "Weihaiwei prawns," for they appear in great abundance in the Weihaiwei fish market during several months in the year, and Weihaiwei residents are by no means dependent on Chefoo for their supplies.

A recent and rather remarkable increase in the revenue derived from the sale of bêche-de-mer licences shows that the waters of Weihaiwei can be made to yield large quantities of this favourite Chinese table delicacy. The bêche-de-mer—less agreeably known as the sea-slug—is taken from submerged rocks along the coast, and some of the more enterprising Chinese fishermen now engage in this branch of their industry by walking about on the floor of the sea clad in Western diving dresses, collecting their prey in a more leisurely and successful manner than was possible under the more primitive conditions of a few years ago.

(E) MINING.

Since the abandonment of the gold-mine, to which reference was made in the Report for 1927, no mining operations have been attempted in the territory. Very few prospecting licences for minerals have been applied for during the past twenty years.

(F) SALT.

The amount of salt produced by evaporation in the lagoons along the coast of the territory has greatly increased in recent years. There are now 361 salt-pans, covering an area of nearly 1,000 acres. The area devoted to this industry has increased about thirtyfold since 1902. The amount of salt produced in excess of local needs varies from year to year, and is sometimes as much as 70 per cent. As salt cannot be shipped to Chinese ports owing to Chinese restrictions (salt in China being a Government monopoly), the surplus stocks of Weihaiwei are exported mainly to Hong Kong and Japanese ports. During 1928 the export of Weihaiwei salt to the latter was reduced to very small dimensions owing to the competition of salt produced under Japanese superintendence in Chosen. The total exports amounted to 53,744 piculs, which exceeded the 1927 total by 6,846 piculs. A stock of 185,000 piculs (including 100,000 piculs stored at the salt pans) was awaiting export at the end of 1928, and is not likely to be disposed of until better prices are offered than rule at the present time.

The record year for salt exports from Weihaiwei was 1923, when 724,832 piculs were exported.

(G) LACE-MAKING.

This continues to be a thriving minor industry in the leased territory and gives employment to large numbers of women and girls.

(H) BRICKS AND TILES AND THE BUILDING TRADE.

The manufacture of bricks and tiles has recently become a very flourishing industry owing to the rapid extension of the town of Port Edward. Building is unfortunately more expensive than it should be, owing to the lack of a local timber supply. Most of the timber used for building purposes is imported from Antung in Manchuria ; and local builders are complaining that, if the prices of this Manchurian timber—for which there is a great demand on the coast of China—continue to rise, they will be obliged to look to the Pacific states of America for their future supplies.

IV.—Trade and Economics.

1,017 merchant steamers with a total tonnage of 1,140,140 called at Port Edward during 1928, as compared with 858 steamers with a tonnage of 1,029,478 in 1927. Of the steamers entering the port, 456 were British, 391 Japanese, 150 Chinese, 10 American, 6 Dutch, and 2 Norwegian. Germany and Denmark were represented by one each.

There is a considerable junk trade with other Chinese ports. Inward junks numbered 1,752 and outward 646, as compared with 1,670 and 452 in 1927.

Although Weihaiwei has no claim to be a great port, its shipping is estimated to have increased about tenfold during the British occupation. In 1902 (the first year for which accurate records are available) only 146 steamers with a tonnage of 151,809 entered the port. Shipping dues (that is, harbour dues on steamers and junks and on inward and outward cargoes) have risen from $1,067 in 1903 to $144,426 in 1928, and for some years past these dues have constituted by far the largest single item in the revenue of the territory.

The total volume of trade in 1928 amounted to 1,525,899 units, valued at $19,744,543, as compared with 1,691,843 units, and $17,650,100 in 1927.

The total volume of imports was valued at $13,955,100, as compared with $11,182,989 in 1927 ; and exports at $5,789,442, as compared with $6,467,112. The excess value of imports over exports during 1928 was therefore $8,165,658, as compared with $4,715,877 in 1927.

Exports consist mainly of agricultural produce, more especially groundnuts. The reduced value of exports in 1928 as compared with those of 1927 is accounted for by the fact that the groundnut trade in 1927 suffered from the effects of several unforeseen circumstances. These included a reduced demand from Europe for the Shantung product (perhaps due in part to the growing competition of India and other countries now producing and exporting groundnuts), the rumours of a heavy import duty to be imposed on Asiatic groundnuts by the United States of America (a matter which will be dealt with more appropriately in the Report for 1929), and the disastrous results of a serious drought. The drought caused the groundnut crop to be unusually late in maturing, and the heavy rains of the latter part of the year injured a portion of the crop to such an extent that it was rejected as unsuitable for export.

The large discrepancy between the value of exports and imports is due to the fact that while exports are mainly agricultural produce from Weihaiwei itself and a limited area adjoining it, imports are largely sent into the interior of the province and find their way to distant inland markets. Large quantities of cotton yarn and piece goods are shipped from Japan, direct or through Dairen, and considerable shipments of sugar, rice, and paper come from Hong Kong. Most of these goods are transmitted to the interior of Shantung and Chihli.

The movement of merchandise is shown in the following summary :

	Imports.	*Exports.*	*Net Imports.*	*Net Exports.*	*Increase or Decrease on 1927.*
	$	$	$	$	$
Bean Cakes and Oil ...	249,330	5,151	244,179	—	– 148,841
Cigarettes and Tobacco	470,016	180,952	289,064	—	– 130,781
Coal	182,140	7,574	174,566	—	+ 18,489
Cotton, raw and yarn ...	1,951,950	73,940	1,878,010	—	+ 553,415
Flour	620,869	20,087	600,782	—	+ 245,801
Piece Goods	3,507,280	261,020	3,246,260	—	+ 1,039,860
Gunny Bags	112,115	13,600	98,515	—	– 80,885
Paper	164,748	44,570	120,178	—	– 27,271
Provisions	353,060	4,900	348,160	—	+ 178,925
Rice	757,991	85,189	672,802	—	– 155,418
Sugar and Sugar-Canes	731,948	357,798	374,150	—	+ 147,242
Timber	135,140	11,240	123,900	—	+ 71,027
Wines, foreign and Chinese.	441,525	13,620	427,905	—	– 52,146
Eggs	7,139	93,203	—	86,064	– 15,708
Fish, salt and dried ...	404,625	316,470	88,155	—	+ 117,815
Groundnuts and kernels	343,368	3,134,894	—	2,791,526	– 834,932
Groundnut Oil	145,455	238,101	—	82,646	– 244,522
Sassons	17,040	67,360	—	50,320	+ 6,370

Country markets are held at several villages in the territory, generally at 5-day intervals. Some years ago, when conditions in Shantung were more peaceful, the principal country markets in the Wên-têng and Jung-ch'eng districts (adjoining and formerly including the leased territory) were situated on the Chinese side of the border. At that time only two or three markets were regularly held in the territory. In recent years several of the markets on the Chinese side have been discontinued owing to the continual depredation of bandits and extortionate tax-collectors (many of the latter owing their appointments solely to themselves), and there are now nine markets in the leased territory. They are held at the villages of Ku-shan-hou, T'un Hou-chia, Fêng-lin, P'o Yü-chia, Pei-chiang-hsi, Ts'ao-miao-tzu, Hsiao Yen-t'an, Yang-t'ing, and Ch'iao-t'ou. All but the first three of these are situated near the border, and are largely patronised by and exist for the benefit of the inhabitants of the adjacent Chinese districts. There is also a long-established market in Weihaiwei walled city, but most of the commercial and industrial activity of that small and decaying town has passed to the much more prosperous town of Port Edward, the headquarters of the British administration.

V.—Communications.

As stated in the Report for 1927, the development of the territory has been hampered by inadequate means of internal communication. Before the British came to Weihaiwei, the people were obliged to content themselves with narrow tracks leading tortuously from village to village. Wheeled vehicles of all kinds—except old-fashioned wheelbarrows—were practically unknown. Agricultural produce was carried to market on the backs of mules and donkeys. The popular means of conveyance for elderly persons or women (who owing to the barbarous custom of footbinding were unable to walk long distances) was the *shan-tzu*—a mat-covered litter carried on two stout poles, like a sedan chair, between two mules. Shortly after the inauguration of British rule, a few roads were constructed, but lack of adequate financial resources made it impossible to carry out the work on a scale commensurate with the real needs of the territory. In 1902 there were about 23 miles of mud roads, and a few years later there were two metalled main roads, one towards the western boundary, about 11 miles long, but ending in a mud-flat two miles from the boundary stone, the other in a southerly direction ending at the village of Yeh-k'ou, in the middle of the territory, about 13 miles from Port Edward. The next roads to be constructed were a short one of about two miles from Port Edward to what is known as the First Lagoon, and a branch road from Sung-chia-wa (on the Yeh-k'ou road) to Wên-ch'uan-t'ang, a place which in 1906 became the administrative centre of what was known as the Southern Division.

The mere maintenance of these roads taxed the exiguous resources of the Government so severely that no further extensions could be carried out; but by this time the inhabitants of the territory had awakened to a full appreciation of the new metalled roads, and one public-spirited headman (the descendant of a Governor of Shansi) induced the inhabitants of the eastern section of the territory to collaborate with him in extending the Wên-ch'uan-t'ang road to the village of Mêng-chia-chuang, a distance of seven miles. This road and subsequently a few other roads in the same part of the territory were constructed mainly at the expense of the villagers themselves, but the Government assisted them with a small annual subsidy and also gave them the necessary technical advice. There are now about fifty miles of roads available for farmers' carts and other wheeled vehicles.

In 1928 the local Government asked for and obtained the consent of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to construct a new road across the northern peninsular portion of the territory to link up the two existing coast roads. Up to that time the eastern and western sections of the northern part of the territory had been separated by a range of hills impracticable for even the rudest type of village cart. The need of a good road to join these separated portions of the territory had been obvious for more than twenty years, but financial obstacles had necessitated the indefinite postponement of a work of which the urgent necessity was fully recognised by both Government and people. For the preliminary survey, carried out during the summer of the year under review, the Government is indebted to Lieutenant N. Wilson, Royal Engineers, who at the invitation of the Government readily undertook the work and carried it out with complete success. The road is now being constructed in accordance with Lieutenant Wilson's plans and will probably be opened to traffic in June, 1929. It will be a "model" road, and the first to be constructed with a definite view to the requirements of motor traffic.

It has already been stated in this Report that motor traffic was absolutely prohibited in this territory till 1928, the main reasons given for the prohibition being that the roads were too narrow, that the bridges were insecure, that the road surfaces would be so torn up as to involve the Government in prohibitive costs for maintenance and repair, that the lethargic and sometimes somnolent village wayfarers would be the victims of innumerable accidents, and that the local mules and donkeys would be so terrified that they would precipitate their riders—mainly women and girls—into yawning ditches. In the summer of 1927 the advent of detachments of the Shanghai Defence Force and the opening of a military convalescent camp made it necessary for the Government to authorise the importation, for military use only, of a few motor-trucks and ambulances. As none of the disastrous results, so long predicted, followed the introduction of these vehicles, it was decided in 1928 to abolish the long-standing prohibition of motor traffic in the territory and to allow a limited number of motor-buses and public and private cars to be imported for the use and convenience of the general public. The introduction of these vehicles has been heartily welcomed by the people and will undoubtedly promote the development of the territory to no small extent.

On the occasion of the opening of the new buildings of the Chamber of Commerce on 5th December, 1928, the Commissioner drew attention to the advent of motor traffic in the following words :—

"Very strict rules have had to be made, and will have to be enforced, regulating the traffic now that it has been introduced, not only in the interests of the persons who may drive and use motor vehicles but also—and I regard this as much more important—in the interests of the immense majority who will seldom or never use motor-cars and for whose benefit the existing roads were originally constructed. In all countries into which motor traffic has been introduced, it has been remarked that persons who drive motor-cars are apt to assume that the roads are primarily for their benefit and that pedestrians may only use them on sufferance and must on no account get in the way or hinder the progress of motor vehicles. Accidents due to carelessness, and sometimes I am afraid to callousness, on the part of the drivers of motor-cars are therefore very frequent, and the sufferers are generally the simple folk who cannot afford motor-cars and whose convenience and safety are too often ignored. Now I am particularly anxious that no such reproaches should be made against those who operate motor-cars in this territory. I want them to remember at all times that they are not the owners of the roads. The roads are the property of the public, not that of a small class of motor-car owners or drivers. In fact I might go further and say that as far as Weihaiwei is concerned the real owners of the roads are the farmers, for it is they who have been taxed for the purpose of the construction and upkeep of the roads. Our roads were built and have been maintained out of the land tax, and the land tax, as you know, is not paid by the merchants but by the tillers of the soil, most of whom are very poor. In this territory motor-car owners and drivers must regard themselves as guests on our roads, and they must therefore pay very special respect to the interests and convenience of their hosts. Meanwhile the Government will do what it can to improve the existing roads and to extend the road system as far as its means permit."

(B) TELEPHONES AND TELEGRAPHS.

Until 1928 there was no telephonic communication with any part of the territory outside Port Edward and the island. The lack of telephones greatly hampered and still hampers administrative work and makes the labours of the police much more arduous than they would be if all the police posts in the outlying districts (13 in number during 1928) were connected by telephone with headquarters. Representations on this subject were made to the Secretary of State during 1927 and 1928, with the result that the local Government was authorised to extend the telephone system, by degrees, to the outlying parts of the territory. Before the end of the year under review the extensions to the police-posts of T'ien-ts'un (five miles to the west) and Ch'ang-fêng (six miles to the south) had been completed, and it is hoped during 1929 to extend the system to Lu-tao-k'ou on the western boundary and possibly (if funds permit) to Liu-lin-tzu and Wên-ch'uan-t'ang in the heart of the territory.

For ordinary telegraphic communication with the outside world Weihaiwei is dependent on a Chinese-owned land-line to Chefoo; but there is also a temporary wireless installation erected in 1927 by the military authorities. The British-owned sea-cable from Weihaiwei to Chefoo, though still in existence and serviceable, has not been in use since 1923.

(C) Steamship Communications.

Steamship communication with Shanghai and Tientsin is regular and frequent, services of passenger and cargo steamers being maintained by the British firms of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company. There is also fairly frequent but irregular steamship communication with other ports, such as Hong Kong, Tsingtao, Chefoo, and Dairen. The port is also occasionally visited by ocean-going steamers plying between China and various American and European ports.

(D) Lighthouses.

There are two lighthouses in the territory which were originally the property of the Chinese Maritime Customs Service and were bought by the British Government in 1901 for the cost price of their construction. The cost of maintenance and the wages of the staff (which is exclusively Chinese) are paid by the Weihaiwei Government.

(E) Posts.

There are agencies of the Hong Kong Post Office at Port Edward and on the island, and the stamps used are Hong Kong stamps surcharged "China." Foreign mails are carried by the shipping firm of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire in accordance with the terms of their mail contract with the Government of the leased territory. Communication with Europe is by the Suez and Siberian routes. Letters from London to Weihaiwei by the sea route take on an average about 40 days in transit, those despatched by the Siberian route about 16 to 22 days. The Chinese Postal Administration has a branch in the walled city of Weihaiwei which usefully supplements the postal services conducted through the British Office.

VI.—Justice, Police, and Prisons.

(A) CIVIL AND CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

The judicial system and procedure of Weihaiwei are laid down in the Weihaiwei Order in Council, 1901. Civil and criminal jurisdiction is vested in the High Court, the Judge of which is appointed under His Majesty's Sign Manual. As the Judge is non-resident, and rarely visits Weihaiwei, the powers of a Judge of the High Court are vested in the Commissioner. The Magistrates, of whom there are two, are also empowered, under the Order in Council, to exercise the delegated powers of the High Court in the majority of cases, both civil and criminal. In civil suits between Chinese, the Courts follow Chinese law and custom so far as they are not repugnant to British conceptions of morality and justice.

The number of civil suits commenced during 1928 was 279, as compared with 281 in 1927 and 239 in 1926. Three of these cases were heard by the Judge of the High Court (Sir Peter Grain), one by the Commissioner sitting as Judge, the remainder by the Senior Magistrate.

Criminal and police cases numbered 646 as compared with 998 in 1927. The decrease is accounted for by a large reduction in the number of gambling offences brought before the Court and a diminution in the number of cases connected with opium. The total number of persons convicted was 1,481, of whom 183 were imprisoned and 1,283 fined. Serious crime, which used to be very rare in this territory, has been growing more prevalent in recent years, mainly owing to the influx of undesirable characters from Chinese territory. This influx is in itself one of the many unfortunate results of the prevalence, in this province, of banditry, civil war, and continual political and social restlessness. Murders were four in number (one murderer was convicted and hanged in 1928), and the cases of armed highway robbery, burglary, and similar offences were somewhat numerous. 15 of the more serious cases were dealt with by the Commissioner sitting as Judge.

In one of the murder cases the victim was a Chinese member of the Police Force, who in December was shot and mortally wounded by an armed robber whom the constable had pursued and courageously tackled. Fortunately the murderer was captured by other members of the Force who had also engaged in the pursuit. His trial did not take place within the year under review, but it may be mentioned here that he was duly convicted and executed. The dead constable received a public funeral which was attended by the Commissioner in person and by other officers of the Government. A contingent of British troops (the Royal Scots) also accompanied the funeral procession to the grave—an act of courtesy which was deeply appreciated by the police force and by the Chinese community. Some days later a memorial ceremony (arranged by the

Chinese of Port Edward) was held on the Parade Ground and also attended by the Commissioner and other officials. The dead man's dependants have been amply provided for out of funds raised by public subscription.

(B) LEGISLATION.

Legislative authority is vested in the Commissioner, but Ordinances enacted by him are subject to disallowance by the King acting on the advice of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The Ordinances enacted in 1928 were three in number, and provided for certain amendments in the Arms and Ammunition Ordinance of 1906, the Gambling Ordinance of 1906, and the Opium Ordinance of 1909.

(C) POLICE.

The Police Force at the end of 1928 consisted of three European Inspectors, 21 Chinese non-commissioned officers and 168 men. One Inspector (who is also Superintendent of the Gaol) and 20 Chinese police (including 9 prison warders) are stationed on the Island of Liukung, and an Inspector and 80 Chinese at Port Edward. The remainder of the force is distributed among 15 posts (two recently established) in the interior and on the boundary, under the supervision of the Territory Inspector.

The pay of the Police was considerably increased in 1928, and this removed a source of discontent which during recent years had proved somewhat detrimental to discipline and smartness. A reference to this subject was made in the Report for 1927. During 1928 the conduct of the Police showed a marked improvement.

(D) PRISONS.

The Weihaiwei prison is situated on the Island of Liukung and has accommodation for 70 male and 20 female prisoners. The increase of crime in recent years has caused attention to be drawn to the fact that the prison is frequently overcrowded, and the question of providing additional accommodation is one which may have to be considered in the near future. There is also a small prison with seven cells in Port Edward, but this is intended for short-sentence prisoners only.

On 12th October four convicts escaped from the island gaol and made their way to the mainland. Three of these were subsequently recaptured by the Police.

VII.—Public Works.

The fact that Weihaiwei is obliged to confine its expenditure within the limits of its local revenue explains the inability of the Government to undertake the construction of several much-needed public works. Incidentally it also accounts for the non-existence of a public debt. Most of the money available for use under the head of Public Works goes to the upkeep of existing roads, bridges, the drainage system of Port Edward, and public buildings. It was found possible, however, to provide in the 1927–28 Estimates for the construction of a new road across the northern peninsular portion of the territory. This very important work—the necessity for which has been obvious to the Government for the past twenty years—is referred to in Section V (A) of this Report.

No other important new work was undertaken during the year under review, though considerable sums were spent on widening bridges and making other improvements to the existing roads necessitated by the introduction of motor traffic. There are in existence approved schemes for harbour improvement, including the building of a breakwater, and the construction of a small pier and a sea-wall to meet the needs of the new commercial area of Port Edward that is being rapidly developed to the south and east of the walled city. Funds for these projects are being gradually accumulated by means of a surtax on shipping dues. At the end of the financial year 1928–29 this fund amounted to $59,631 ; and it is possible that a portion of this may be devoted, during the next two years, to the second of these two schemes.

VIII.—Public Health, etc.

(A) PUBLIC HEALTH.

Weihaiwei fully maintained, during 1928, its excellent reputation as one of the healthiest spots on the Asiatic Pacific coast. As regards the foreign community, it seems unnecessary to say more than that there was only one death, which resulted from drowning. The Chinese population suffered during the spring and summer from a rather severe epidemic of diphtheria and slight outbreaks of scarlet fever and measles. The Medical Officers trace these epidemics to the fact that during the year under review Weihaiwei was the resort of many half-starved refugees from other parts of the province, some of whom were either suffering from disease when they entered the territory or through privation and debility became easy victims to such causes of infection as existed locally.

There are three Government hospitals in the territory. The largest of them (under the direct superintendence of the British Medical Officers of the Government) is in Port Edward ; the second is on the Island of Liukung, where there is a Western-trained Chinese doctor under the supervision of the resident Surgeon-Commander in charge of the Royal Naval Sick Quarters, who holds the additional post of Medical Officer for the island, under the civil Administration ; the third is at Wên-ch'uan-t'ang, in the heart of the territory, 13 miles from Port Edward, which is also in charge of a Western-trained Chinese doctor under European supervision.

The total number of patients attending the three hospitals in 1928 was 20,311. This exceeded the number treated in 1927 by 1,698.

With regard to the locally prevalent disease of kala-azar, the Medical Officers report as follows :—

> " Eighty cases were under treatment during the year and they received 1,830 injections ; antimony tartrate is given intravenously in the majority of the cases, but in young children stibosan is used intramuscularly with good results. Sixty-four new cases were diagnosed but only forty-eight returned for regular treatment ; injections were given twice a week. The rapid increase in the number of injections indicates the popularity (and success) of the treatment and the faith of the patients in its efficacy, the figures being 796 in 1926, 1,397 in 1927, and 1,830 in 1928."

81 suicides were reported during 1928. As is invariably the case in Weihaiwei, and probably in China generally, the number of female exceeded the number of male suicides, the figures being 45 and 36 respectively.

(B) MILITARY CONVALESCENT CAMP.

For the second consecutive year the territory was used for the purposes of a convalescent camp of 50 beds for the Shanghai Defence Force. Full use was made of this camp during the summer months of 1928, with highly beneficial results.

(C) SANATORIUM FOR CONSUMPTIVES.

A small sanatorium for the treatment of Chinese cases of tuberculosis—a somewhat prevalent disease in this territory—was established in 1928 near the seashore, about 2½ miles to the south of Port Edward.

(D) HOSPITAL EXTENSION.

A new ward for Chinese paying-patients was added to the Port Edward Hospital. Furniture for the ward was generously presented by Mr. Li Yi-chih, Chairman of the local Chamber of Commerce. The first patient to avail himself of this ward was a Chinese General, who, after defeat in a local civil war, became a refugee in Weihaiwei.

For the first time in the history of the territory, provision was made during 1928 for European patients, by the addition of a ward of two beds to the Port Edward Hospital. Accommodation for Europeans in the small adjacent infectious diseases hospital was also made available by the enlargement of the existing premises.

(E) LEPROSY.

Special interest attaches to the efforts made to deal with cases of leprosy in the territory, by the adoption of the new treatment with Alepol (intravenous hydnocarpate injections) which has led to such remarkably beneficial results in other parts of the world where this disease—till recently regarded as incurable—is prevalent. The actual number of lepers in this territory is not great—official enquiries reveal a total of about 70— but it will be a source of great satisfaction to the Government if the results of the new treatment justify the hope that at no distant date this terrible disease may be declared to be non-existent in this territory.* The Government of Weihaiwei has taken note of a speech delivered by the Prince of Wales in 1924, in which His Royal Highness predicted the ultimate elimination of leprosy from the British Empire. The attainment of this object was described by him as "a wonderful ideal alike for British medical science and for British administration." Although Weihaiwei is not an integral part of the British Empire it has been under British administration for thirty years, and it would have been most regrettable if, before the rendition of the territory to China, no steps had been taken to make an effort to eradicate the disease by means of the best curative methods made available by recent research in the West.

Writing on the new treatment in "Leprosy Notes" (October, 1928), Dr. R. G. Cochrane, Medical Adviser to the Mission to Lepers, says: "The present day treatment of leprosy is full of hope, and physicians have in their hands remedies which will cause the subsidence of the disease in the great majority of cases; therefore the hope of ridding the Empire of leprosy is a legitimate and practical one." Similarly, Dr. C. F. Birkenstock in the same periodical says, with special reference to leprosy in Central Africa, that "on the whole the results are very gratifying, and promise every likelihood of the permanent eradication of leprosy."

In Weihaiwei the new treatment is freely administered to all lepers who submit themselves voluntarily to the doctor's hands. At the close of 1928 there were fifteen patients undergoing regular treatment, and in several of these cases a marked improvement has already been noticed. The number of patients is likely to increase rapidly as soon as the glad news reaches other sufferers that the treatment is productive of good results.

An interesting Report on the subject of leprosy in Weihaiwei, including an account of the results so far obtained, was submitted to the Government by the Senior Medical Officer (Dr. Francis Clark) shortly after the close of the year under review, and has been transmitted to the Secretary of the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association, by whom it will doubtless in due course be published.

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* According to the "Leper Quarterly" (November, 1928) there is "a leper population (in China) of one million, of which two thirds are supposed to be distributed in the provinces of Kwangsi and Fuhkien."

(F) WATER SUPPLY.

The rainfall during the first half of the year was much below the average, being only 3.7 inches. The drought was the cause of the almost total failure of the wheat crop, and also gave rise to some anxiety with regard to the water supply, which is derived from shallow wells. Several additional wells were sunk by Government in the Port Edward area and fitted with pumps; and fears of a water famine were dissipated by the copious rains which began to fall in July. The rapid increase in the population of Port Edward renders the question of the provision of an adequate water supply a somewhat pressing one, for which a solution must be found in the near future.

(G) THERMAL SPRINGS.

There are two thermal springs in the leased territory. The best-known is that situated outside the East Gate of the walled city, on the outskirts of Port Edward, where bath-houses were erected many years ago and are still in daily use. An analysis of the water was made in 1902 by the Hong Kong Government Analyst, and was as follows:—

70,000 fluid parts (1 gallon=70,000 grains) contain:—

Sodium Sulphide	2.6
Sodium Sulphite	2.9
Sodium Sulphate	23.1
Sodium Chloride	833.6
Potassium Chloride	11.9
Magnesium Chloride	17.1
Calcium Chloride	314.9
Calcium Carbonate	14.0
Alumina and Iron peroxide	.4
Silica	9.5
Parts by weight	1,230.1

The Analyst added that "this is a natural sulphur spring water, containing substance of high remedial value." Though he did not specify what ailments were likely to yield to treatment by the water, it is understood that sufferers from rheumatism have derived some benefit from the baths. The Analyst's opinion was indeed corroborated by that of the Principal Civil Medical Officer of Hong Kong, who stated that the water was "likely to be useful as an alterative and for rheumatic complaints." It appears, however, that the constituents of the water are not constant, for a much more recent analysis (made by the Port Arthur College of Engineering) of another sample taken from the same hot spring in 1928 shows that no sulphides or sulphites were present. The Senior Medical Officer

(Dr. F. Clark) observes that " possibly their presence is intermittent as there is certainly an odour of sulphureous gases present at times in the effluent from the baths." The analysis is as follows :—

Constituents.		*Gram per Litre.*
Common salt...	$(NaCl)$	1.450
Silica ...	(S_1O_2)	0.0095
Calcium bicarbonate	$(Ca(HCO_3)_2$	0.405
Calcium Chloride	$(CaCl_2)$	0.178
Calcium Sulphate	$(CaSO_4)$	0.029
Magnesium Sulphate	$(MgSO_4)$	0.025
		2.097
Calcium Oxide	(CaO)	0.241

The second of the two thermal springs is situated in the heart of the territory, about 13 miles from Port Edward. It rises in the bed of a small stream, close to the village of Wên-ch'uan-t'ang. The village owes its name to the spring, for it means " Warm Spring Bath." Where the stream is swollen by heavy rains the spring is temporarily submerged, and the neighbouring villagers are deprived of their hot baths ; but for at least nine months in the year the stream is a mere rivulet which leaves the warm spring untouched. No bath-houses have been erected over the spring, but the male residents of the surrounding villages may be seen bathing in the warm pools at all hours and throughout all seasons. The local explanation of the phenomenon is that an ancient dame who lives somewhere in the depths of the earth devotes herself to the useful task of tending a subterranean furnace which keeps the water permanently hot. In recognition of the unselfish labour undertaken by her for their benefit, representatives from the villages come forth on Chinese New Year's Day, dressed in their best, and kneel on the sands beside the warm pools. There they salute the venerable lady with a threefold *kotow*.

No analysis of the waters of this hot spring was obtained until 1928, when Mr. F. G. C. Walker, Analyst to the Shanghai Municipality, undertook an examination of the water at the request of the Government. His report, dated December 6th, is as follows :—

> " The sample was taken at 4 p.m. on 2nd November from a shallow pool 6 to 7 feet in diameter and about 6 inches in depth. This pool, with other small pools, lay in the sandy bed of a stream which was practically dry and in which there was no visible current or influx of surface water. The sand in and surrounding the pool showed no sign of any incrustation or deposited solid and the water appeared almost clear. The temperature of the water could not be definitely ascertained but it was that of a moderately hot bath, say about 100° to 105° F., the sand at the bottom of the pool being hotter

to the touch than the water. The sand was quiescent, no movement due to rising steam or gases being evident. No odour was noticeable.

"On arrival at the laboratory a dark brown coloured deposit had separated from the water. This deposit contained oxides of iron and manganese.

"The total mineral content of the water (including the deposited oxides) is 1.30 grams per litre (91 grains per gallon). The detailed mineral composition is given below, the salts shown representing the most probable combinations of the acidic and basic radicles found by analysis.

Mineral Content of Thermal Water.

		Parts per million.	=	*Grains per gallon.*
Calcium Carbonate ...	$(CaC0_3)$	153.5		10.75
Magnesium Sulphate ...	$(MgS0_4)$	30.2		2.11
Sodium Sulphate ...	(Na_2S0_4)	198.8		13.92
Sodium Chloride ...	$(NaC1)$	759.5		53.16
Potassium Chloride ...	$(KC1)$	41.4		2.90
Potassium Nitrate ...	$(KN0_3)$	3.0		0.21
Silica	$(Si0_2)$	90.0		6.30
Alumia	(Al_20_3)	1.6		0.11
Iron Oxide	(Fe_20_3)	15.5		1.08
Manganese Oxide ...	(Mn_20_3)	1.0		0.07
Traces of organic matter, ammonium salts, etc.,		11.0		0.77
		1305.5		91.38

"The calcium carbonate is in solution in the water as bicarbonate and the iron and manganese are also probably originally present in the form of soluble bicarbonates and are thrown out of solution in the form of hydrated oxides on aeration.

"The water is not highly mineralised and is neither acidic nor alkaline in character. Neither is it a sulphur water. It is more of a saline water, the chief mineral constituent being sodium chloride (salt) and the other mineral components being those normally present in spring water. It is slightly ferruginous."

The Government Medical Officers are of opinion that judging from this analysis the water contains little or nothing of any remedial value, though one of them expresses the belief that "were Wên-ch'uan-t'ang in Europe it would become a fashionable spa and the water would be bottled and sold at fancy prices."

(H) METEOROLOGICAL.

The total rainfall for the year was 22.33 inches, distributed over 61 days. Less than 4 inches fell during the first six months. The normal yearly average is about 27 inches.

It was mentioned in the Report for 1927 that the highest shade temperature registered in that year was 101° F., which constituted a record for Weihaiwei since observations began to be taken. This record was beaten in 1928, for the highest temperature registered in that year was 105° F. on 2nd July. The lowest temperature for the year was 11° F. recorded on 13th January and 7th February. The lowest temperature in the history of the leased territory was 1° F., recorded in 1913.

The highest barometer reading was 30.72 in December and the lowest 29.03 in September, the monthly range varying from 1.22 in September to 0.52 in June.

(I) POPULATION.

The last Census was taken in 1921, when the population of the territory was found to number 154,416. The present population is roughly estimated at 180,000. This includes the foreign community, who during the winter months (when their numbers are reduced to a minimum) are about 100. About 72 per cent. of the foreigners are British. Some of the remainder are Koreans and Japanese ; and the existence of a Roman Catholic Convent accounts for the presence of a few persons of French, Italian, Belgian, Spanish, and Hungarian nationality. The population of the Island of Liukung, of which a separate census is taken every year, is 864, of whom 39 are Europeans.

IX.—Education.

Up to 1928, the efforts and achievements of the Government in respect of education in the territory were almost negligible. Inadequacy of financial resources made it impossible for the British Administration to do much more than support one boys' school (for Chinese) at Port Edward, and even on this institution the total outlay was restricted to the modest sum of $3,600 a year. The larger villages in the territory maintained old-style schools of their own, at which perhaps five per cent. of the boys of school age learned to read and write their own language. None of these schools received any Government supervision. In Port Edward the Anglican, Roman Catholic, and " Brethren " missions maintained good schools for many years, without any financial or other assistance from Government, and these schools set up a standard of education far higher than that of the old-fashioned village schools.

Three other schools were founded by local merchants and other Chinese residents. One is a small school on the Island of Liukung with 45 pupils. Another is the Shu Tê School for girls, originally established in connection with an anti-footbinding movement. The third is a large and progressive Middle School for boys, staffed by Chinese University graduates and thoroughly modern in its methods and in the subjects taught. The headmaster—Mr. Tung—is an enthusiast and a man of high educational ideals. For some account of this promising institution—known till 1928 as the Ch'i Tung ("Eastern Shantung") School but now re-named the Weihai Middle School—reference may be made to the Annual Report for 1927, in which it was stated that there was some reason to hope that the school might in due time receive a substantial grant or endowment from the returned "Boxer" indemnity. Until the year under review, the local Government was unable to do more for this school than provide it with free quarters.

The growing prosperity of Weihaiwei and the increase in its public revenue has at last enabled the Government to promote the cause of education in the territory more effectively than circumstances have permitted in the past. A Department of Education has now been provided for in the annual Estimates, and although it is not yet possible to appoint an Inspector of Schools, an effort is being made to exercise some measure of supervision over the village schools, and in 1928 small money grants in aid of a limited number of modern schools were for the first time provided out of Government funds. The beneficiaries of the grants during the year under review were the Anglican Mission School for boys, the Catholic Mission Schools for boys and girls, and the girls' school conducted by the ladies of the "Brethren" Mission. It is hoped that the grant-in-aid system will be extended, and the grants increased, in accordance with any further advance that may take place in the prosperity of the territory.

In the course of the year under review the Weihai Middle School which has hitherto been accommodated in cramped quarters in the middle of Port Edward, quite unsuitable for a large boys' school and lacking a playground, petitioned the Government for the grant of a piece of Crown land for the purpose of erecting new school buildings and providing adequate playing fields. An admirable site was selected on the sea coast about two miles from Port Edward. It consists of a piece of ground about 10 acres in extent, containing admirable sites for all the buildings that can be required for many years to come, leaving ample space for purposes of recreation. The grant of this tract of land to the Weihai Middle School was recommended to and approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies and steps were immediately taken by the school authorities, with Government encouragement, to collect subscriptions towards a building fund. To this fund the Government promised, subject to the Secretary of State's approval, to contribute the sum of $5,000 during the financial year 1929–30, on condition that at least the same amount were raised by public subscription. Encouraged by this evidence of official approval and support, the Chinese merchants of

Port Edward quickly raised the amount required: indeed in the course of a few days after the issue of the appeal the amount collected reached a total of $15,000. Plans for the proposed buildings are already being drawn up, and it is expected that the work will be begun early in 1929 and completed before the end of the summer. Weihaiwei will then be equipped with a school which will remove from the territory the reproach that has been directed against it in the past—that neither Government nor people took any active interest in the educational welfare of the rising generation.

That the people of the territory as a whole, and not merely the residents of Port Edward, are interested in the fortunes of the Weihai Middle School is proved by the fact that since 1927 a portion of the maintenance expenses of the school has been derived from a small surtax on the land tax, and that this surtax was imposed at the direct request of the headmen of the 26 districts into which the territory is divided.

It is difficult to form an accurate estimate of the proportion of children of school age now undergoing education of some kind in the territory. Most of the boys and all but a minute fraction of the girls of Weihaiwei grow up without any education at all. According to the census returns for 1921, the number of the inhabitants of the territory who could read and write was under 14,000. Of these only 227 were females. If we assume, as we probably may, that a slight improvement has taken place in the last seven years, and that there are now about 17,000 "literates" in the territory, it appears that the "educated" people of Weihaiwei comprise only about one-tenth of the total population.

The following table gives the number of pupils attending the principal modern schools during 1928:—

	Day Pupils.	*Boarders.*	*Total.*
Weihai Middle School (Boys) ...	109	34	143
Island School, 33 boys, 12 girls ...	45	—	45
Huang Jen Government School (Boys).	200	—	200
Shu Tê School for Girls	50	—	50
Anglican School (Boys)	36	27	63
"Brethren" School	134	56	190
Roman Catholic Boys' School ...	135	35	170
Roman Catholic Girls' School ...	65	—	65
Roman Catholic Kindergarten ...	35	—	35
Roman Catholic Boys' School at village of Yen T'an.	22	—	22
	831	152	983

The Mission Schools named in the above list naturally include religion among the subjects taught. In this connection it may be of interest to record the numbers of Chinese Christians belonging to the three denominations—Anglican, Roman Catholic, and Nonconformist—which carry on evangelistic work in the territory. Anglican Christians number 30, Roman Catholic 350, Nonconformist ("Brethren") 106. Thus the total number of Chinese Christians of all denominations in the territory amounts to 486, or approximately 1 in every 370 of the population.

X.—Lands and Survey.

It has not been found possible to undertake a cadastral survey of the territory, though the 2-inch to a mile survey carried out by the Royal Engineers under Major C. Penrose (see section I, page 5) in 1898–99 has been found very accurate and of great practical use for administrative purposes.

Lands fit for cultivation are practically all privately-owned. A few isolated pieces of land along the coast are Government property, owing to the fact that they were military areas or "fort-lands" under the Chinese Imperial Government. Agricultural land is difficult to buy, not only on account of the density of the agricultural population, which in itself would tend to keep land-values up to a high level, but also because cultivated land very rarely comes into the open market. Every Chinese agricultural landowner in Weihaiwei—and this applies with equal force to the neighbouring parts of the province of Shantung and to many other parts of China—is by custom debarred from selling his land to strangers. If he is compelled by circumstances to part with his land he is obliged to offer it first to his nearest relatives of the same surname. Only if they all refuse to buy (at a price which is considered reasonable by the elders of his clan) he may be regarded as free to sell to an outsider. But it is very rarely, except in times of famine or political upheaval, that the seller is met with refusals by all the appropriate members of his clan in their order of precedence or seniority. During the past few years such cases have been common enough in the greater part of the province, where the misgovernment of militarists has compelled tens of thousands of peasant-proprietors to abandon their properties and flee to Manchuria or to such miniature "Peach Gardens" as Weihaiwei. But this state of things has naturally had the result of raising the market price of farm-lands in this territory to figures which from the purely economic standpoint are almost fantastically high.

Urban sites may often be obtained more easily and at more reasonable prices, because they have usually passed through many hands and are not necessarily subject to customary clan-restrictions. Nevertheless the influx of refugees, some of them well-to-do, the increasing importance of Port Edward as a commercial centre, and the tendency of thrifty Chinese to invest their savings in real estate rather than in industrial enterprises of a more or less speculative nature, are responsible for continuous increases in urban land-values. It was remarked in the Report for 1927 that land on the outskirts of Port Edward which in 1902 could be bought for $20 a *mu* or $120 an acre, had risen in 1921 to prices varying from $200 to $800 a *mu*, and that six years later such land could find purchasers at $1,300 a *mu*. Yet since the last Report was written, cases have occurred of vegetable-gardens on the outskirts of Port Edward changing hands for building purposes at no less than $4,000 a *mu* or $24,000 an acre; and there is no reason to suppose that the upward tendency has ceased.

XI.—Labour.

There are no local labour unions or organizations in Weihaiwei other than the ordinary Chinese trade-guilds. The relations of the latter with the Government have always been excellent. The latest local guild to come into existence is the motor-car guild, which was formed soon after the withdrawal (in 1928) of the embargo on motor traffic in this territory. The vast majority of the inhabitants of Weihaiwei are farmers and fishermen; and as nearly all the farmers are peasant-proprietors, who till the lands handed down to them by their ancestors through many generations, disputes between agricultural labourers and their employers are unknown. In the only urban district in the territory—the Port Edward area—the relations between employers and employed are harmonious, though the steady increase in the cost of living necessitates fairly frequent readjustments of wages.

For further observations on labour conditions, and on the entry of women into the local labour market, reference should be made to the Report for 1927.

XII.—Miscellaneous.

During 1928 a few changes took place in the administrative staff. Mr. Calthrop, Junior District Officer and Magistrate, who had left the territory in December, 1927, was succeeded on 6th January by Mr. W. La B. Sparrow. For the services of both these officers, Weihaiwei is indebted to the Government of Hong Kong. Mr. C. R. Lee (seconded from the Consular Service in China), who had acted as Senior District Officer since March, 1927, left the territory on 27th August, 1928. His place was temporarily taken by Mr. Sparrow while Mr. R. G. L. Ford of the Northamptonshire Regiment became Acting Junior District Officer. On 20th November Mr. H. I. Prideaux-Brune (also seconded from the Consular Service) arrived in the territory and was gazetted Secretary to Government and Senior District Officer, while Mr. Sparrow reverted to his own post.

Surgeon-Commander (now Surgeon-Captain) N. S. Meiklejohn, D.S.O., R.N., who in addition to his naval duties as Officer in charge of the Royal Naval Sick Quarters had also occupied the post of Civil Medical Officer for the Island of Liukung since 16th December, 1925, resigned his civil appointment on 24th October, 1928, on the expiry of his term of office under the naval authorities, and was succeeded in both posts by Surgeon-Commander G.P. Adshead, R.N.

R. F. JOHNSTON,
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WEIHAIWEI.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

Historical, Geographical, and Descriptive.

Weihaiwei is a leased territory which has been under British rule since 1898. It is administered by a Commissioner appointed by the Crown and directly responsible to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. His powers are identical with those of the Governor of a Crown Colony.

The territory is situated near the north-east promontory of the Chinese province of Shantung. Its area being about 285 square miles, it is about 58 square miles larger than the Isle of Man and almost exactly twice the size of the Isle of Wight. In addition to the territory itself there is a much wider adjoining area estimated at 1,500 square miles, over which the Weihaiwei Convention of 1898 gave Great Britain certain rights mainly of a military nature. These rights, however, Great Britain has never made any attempt to exercise. Within the territory and adjacent to the town of Port Edward there is a "city"—so-called merely because it has the honour of possessing a wall, though it is but a village—which has always remained under Chinese jurisdiction, though in certain eventualities referred to in the Convention the British Government is entitled to assume control.

The population of the territory is now estimated at over 180,000, which is about 30,000 less than that of Tasmania. In 1921, when the last census was taken, the population was ascertained to be 154,177, but a considerable increase has taken place since that time.

owing partly to the development of trade and partly to the influx of refugees from neighbouring parts of the province, which for several years has suffered greatly from civil war, banditry, and other evil conditions.

The non-Chinese population (exclusive of the naval and military services) consists of about 34 British residents, 3 Belgians, 3 Italians, 24 Koreans, and one national of each of the following countries :—Spain, Hungary, France, and Canada, making a total of 68. The non-British Europeans are members of the local Roman Catholic Mission and Convent. The European population is very largely increased during the summer months, owing to the influx of visitors from Shanghai and other Chinese ports.

Port Edward (the name given by the British Government to the port of Ma-t'ou) has grown under British administration from a hamlet of little more than a thousand inhabitants to a prosperous town which, together with two or three villages which it has absorbed, contains a population of nearly 20,000. It is the port of the territory and the seat of Government.

The language spoken by the Chinese of Weihaiwei is northern "Mandarin" (now known as the National language) with slight dialectical peculiarities common to eastern Shantung.

The currency consists of silver dollars (Mexican, Chinese, and British) and Chinese subsidiary silver and copper coinage. The notes of the British banks operating in China are current, and are supplemented by local notes of small denomination (one-dollar and *tiao* notes representing 1,000 copper cash) issued by Chinese trading firms under the supervision and control of the Local Chambers of Commerce. In their dealings with one another the people use the ordinary Chinese weights and measures, but the merchants have acquired a knowledge of British standards as well, and make use of them in their dealings with the local Government and with foreign traders.

The following Report deals with the calendar year 1929, except in respect of finance. The financial year begins on 1st April, and for statistical and other purposes it is convenient to give in the Annual Report facts and figures relating to the whole of that year. Section II, therefore, which concerns finance only, deals with the financial year ending on 31st March, 1930.

I.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Although civil war, banditry, and conditions generally disturbed made the year 1929 one of hardship for the people of Shantung, the territory of Weihaiwei continued to live up to its reputation as an area of peace and prosperity. There was one regrettable case of the kidnapping of an eight-year-old boy for ransom. This is a form of crime which has existed in China from time immemorial and always sweeps like an epidemic through the land in periods of political disorder. It almost invariably goes unpunished on account of the extreme unwillingness of the intimidated victims and their relations to give information to those authorities who might be able and willing to effect the arrest of the malefactors. In the case referred to, which was the first recorded in the British annals of Weihaiwei, the criminals did not get off scot-free, for one of them was arrested by the British authorities and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment with hard labour, and his associates found the Anglo-Chinese borderland so hazardous a field of operations that they appear to have fled to the regions west of Chefoo. The kidnapped child, who had been carried off to a bandit's mountain-stronghold in Chinese territory, was recovered on payment by his father of a ransom which after much bargaining through intermediaries was reduced from thirteen to three thousand dollars.

An embarrassing but unavoidable circumstance, which makes the maintenance of peace and good order in the Leased Territory a matter of increasing difficulty, is that it is not always possible for the Weihaiwei Government to differentiate between genuine refugees, who enter the territory in large numbers in order to escape from intolerable conditions across the border, and the numerous professional robbers, deserters from Chinese military camps, and ruined peasants who in desperation have taken to banditry and kidnapping as a means of livelihood. Police investigations proved that all the persons concerned in the kidnapping case referred to above were natives of the western part of the province, where economic conditions are particularly bad.

In contrast with the people of the rest of the province, the small peasant-proprietors of Weihaiwei have risen, under British administration, from a condition of extreme poverty to one of comparative affluence. Many of them are actually in a position, for the first time, to engage hired labour to assist them in the working of their farms ; and unfortunately for the territory this hired labour is recruited from among the thousands of homeless wanderers who have been rendered destitute by the pitiful social and political conditions still prevailing in many parts of Shantung. On entering the Leased Territory, these people find themselves in a region which to them is not only a haven of refuge but a place of wealth and prosperity. They are glad to find employment at wages which would be rejected with scorn by the poorest Weihaiwei natives ; and the farmers rejoice to find that they can obtain labourers at a cost far below the minimum rates acceptable by the people of the territory. The position would seem to be satisfactory from the points of view of both employers and employed, were it not for the unfortunate fact that the homeless refugees who enter the territory are not all in search of honest work. They include men who have become actual or potential criminals, either from natural depravity or because they have been demoralised by misery and starvation and the breakdown of orderly government ; and the consequence is that the increase in serious crime which has engaged the attention of the British authorities during the past few years, and has necessitated a considerable increase in the police force, is directly attributable to the influx of undesirable characters from the Chinese side of the border. Many of the people who accept employment as farm labourers in Weihaiwei may once have been honest and harmless peasants, tilling their own little farms ; hard circumstances have turned them into thieves or bandits or have made them the more or less willing tools of the roving robber gangs with which the adjacent Chinese territory is infested ; and they are soon in a position to supply their confederates with information which makes it an easy matter for the latter to devise plans of armed robbery and kidnapping. When all the existing circumstances are taken into consideration, the fact that serious crime in the territory, though gradually increasing, is still comparatively rare, is as surprising as it is gratifying ; and the local Government is entitled to congratulate itself both on the effectiveness of the measures taken by it to protect the territory, with its forty-mile land frontier, against the incursions of armed criminals, and on the good work cheerfully and on the whole successfully carried out by its small force of less than 200 Chinese constables supervised by only two British inspectors.*

During the months of March and April a state of civil war existed in eastern Shantung, and the greater part of the fighting took place near the city of Mou-p'ing, between Weihaiwei and Chefoo. During this critical period, a platoon of the Royal Scots was stationed at Lu-tao-k'ou, on the western boundary of the territory, and was of great service in maintaining the inviolability of Weihaiwei and in helping the police to disarm the deserters and fugitives, from both the contending Chinese armies, who entered the territory in considerable numbers. The inhabitants of the villages on the British side of the western border welcomed the arrival of British troops in that locality with enthusiasm ; and having grown accustomed to regard the soldiers as their protectors against manifold calamities (as indeed they were), they were loud in their lamentations when conditions became sufficiently normal to allow of the withdrawal of the troops to their barracks in Port Edward.

Later in the year the people of the border regions were again in a state of alarm owing to the recrudescence of banditry and highway robbery on a large scale in the immediate vicinity of the Leased Territory. As it was thought possible that attacks might be made on villages on the British side, the commanding officer of H.M.S. SUFFOLK (Captain G. S. Arbuthnot, D.S.O., R.N.) kindly allowed a detachment of Royal Marines from his ship to patrol the border for several days during September. They were accompanied by the Commissioner in person. The object of the march was to demonstrate to those bad characters who were constantly threatening the tranquillity of the territory that the Government was able, when necessity arose, to concentrate armed forces at any point that might be menaced, and to reassure the Weihaiwei villagers as to the willingness and ability of His Majesty's Government to afford them protection.

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* The third inspector is also custodian of the Gaol and his duties restrict his field of activity to the Island of Liu-kung.

This was the first occasion on which the territory had been patrolled by a force landed from one of His Majesty's ships. The march was thoroughly successful in every way, and it is scarcely necessary to say that the marines were received by the villagers with the utmost cordiality. A similar route march was carried out shortly afterwards by a detachment of 100 men of the Royal Scots, with equally satisfactory results.

While this Report is being prepared, negotiations are proceeding between the Chinese and British Governments for the retrocession of the territory of Weihaiwei to China, in accordance with the promise given by His Majesty's Government at the Washington Conference in 1922. The absence of a central Government recognized by the Powers and able to conclude international agreements on behalf of a united China made it impossible for this promise to be carried out at an earlier date. In 1929, however, Great Britain's recognition of the Government at Nanking as the central government of China was immediately followed by the resumption of the negotiations which would have been brought to a successful issue in 1924 but for the *coup d'état* in Peking which resulted in the downfall of the Government of that day. It is hoped and expected that the present negotiations will lead to the desired retrocession of Weihaiwei before the end of 1930.

II.—FINANCE.*

The revenue collected during the financial year 1st April, 1929, to 31st March, 1930, amounted to $433,774, irrespective of special surtaxes on shipping dues for harbour improvements (which produced $20,548) and on the land-tax for educational purposes (which produced $2,206), making a gross total of $456,528 collected by Government. As the estimated net revenue was only $355,215, it will be seen that the actual revenue exceeded the estimate by $78,569. The actual revenue for the preceding year (1928–9) was $324,636. Although that was the highest ever collected in Weihaiwei up to that time, the revenue for the year under review has broken that record to the extent of no less than $109,138. It may be observed that the revenue of the territory has practically doubled in four years, and that by far the greater part of the increase has taken place in the last two.

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* For the purpose of this section only, this Report deals with the financial year 1929–30, which closed on 31st March, 1930.

The following table gives the totals of net revenue and expenditure for the six years ending with 1929–30, and shows the excess of revenue over expenditure for each of those years :—

	1924–5.	1925–6.	1926–7.	1927–8.	1928–9.	1929–30.
	$	$	$	$	$	$
Revenue ...	189,554	219,142	240,763	256,494	324,636	433,774
Expenditure ...	179,944	187,432	214,331	247,014	313,228	316,830
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure	9,610	31,710	26,432	9,480	11,408	116,944

The increase in revenue during the past few years may be traced mainly to the commercial expansion of Port Edward and its trade and shipping, and also to a revised scale of shipping dues introduced in 1928, and the adoption of improved methods of supervising and collecting taxes, and the removal of the embargo on motor traffic. The steady growth in expenditure up to 1928–29 is partly accounted for by the necessary increases in the personnel and salaries of the clerical staff and the police force, but mainly to much-needed expenditure on public works and the development of roads and the telephone-system. Much of this expenditure would have been undertaken in former years but for financial stringency. The policy of financing public works by means of loans has never been adopted in Weihaiwei, which accounts not only for the backwardness of the territory in certain obvious respects but also for the fact that there is no public debt.

The following figures show the difference between the estimated and the actual revenue for 1929–30 under the four main heads. It will be observed that the increases took place under all these heads. The large increase under the first head is accounted for by a steady expansion in the receipts derived from shipping dues.

	Estimated Revenue for 1929–30.	*Actual Revenue for* 1929–30.	*Excess of Actual over Estimated Revenue.*
	$	$	$
Licences and Internal Revenue	305,465	366,231	60,766
Fees of Court, etc.	27,150	37,961	10,811
Rents of Government Property, etc.	10,000	12,928	2,928
Interest and Miscellaneous ...	12,600	16,654	4,054
Totals	$355,215	433,774	78,559

The figures in the above table are exclusive of those relating to the above-mentioned surtax on shipping dues. This is a voluntary surtax levied for the purpose of accumulating a fund to be used for harbour improvements. The surtax consists of 10 per cent. on ordinary shipping dues. As already stated, the sum collected during the financial year under review was $20,548.00, and the total amount now standing to the credit of the fund is $78,533.00. The selection of the purposes on which this fund or any part of it may be expended rests with the Port Edward Chamber of Commerce in consultation with the local Government, whose joint recommendations are subject to the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

In view of the expansion which has taken place in recent years, it seems not impossible that the revenue for 1930–31 (assuming the maintenance of the British administration throughout that period) may amount to $450,000 or more. But it is to be remembered that owing to the chaotic state of a great part of the province of Shantung, the constant interferences with trade arising from banditry, military operations, and political uncertainty, the absence of a settled and stable government in the adjoining Chinese territory, the ever-present possibility of a renewal of civil war, and other causes which can hardly be taken into consideration when the annual estimates are being prepared, no attempt to forecast the actual revenue of the territory can be regarded as much better than guesswork. Meanwhile, it is satisfactory to note that the public revenue of Weihaiwei has increased from $4,077 in 1900–01 to $433,774 in 1929–30.

For nearly twenty years of the British administration it was necessary to supplement the local revenue with an Imperial grant-in-aid. The total amount spent by His Majesty's Government in such grants reached the equivalent of £144,500. The first year in respect of which no grant was found to be necessary was 1916–17. Further grants were required in the three following years, but since 1921–22 the Territory has been wholly self-supporting, and in 1928 the sum of $61,311, representing the unexpended portion of an Imperial grant which improved financial conditions had rendered unnecessary, was refunded to His Majesty's Treasury.

III.—PRODUCTION.

(A) Agriculture.

Agriculture, which is the principal industry in the territory, is the occupation of more than 90 per cent. of the resident families, most of the remainder of the population being fishermen, traders, and shopkeepers. The great majority of the cultivators are peasant-proprietors, and have tilled their farms for generations. Records preserved in family-temples and in clan-graveyards show that many of the inhabitants of the 360 villages of the territory have been landholders in this district for eighteen or more generations.

The principal crops are wheat, millet, barley, maize, kaoliang (tall millet), sweet potatoes, beans, buckwheat, and groundnuts. The last-named crop is very extensively grown for export, and largely accounts for the considerable increase in the wealth and prosperity of the farmers and traders of Weihaiwei in recent years.

Somewhat serious droughts took place in the early summers of 1927, 1928, and 1929, which nearly ruined the wheat harvest in all three years. Otherwise the farmers have had little to complain of.

(B) Forestry.

The following notes on this subject are quoted from the Annual Report for 1927, to which there is nothing to add : "Hampered by limited resources the Government has not been able to carry out any comprehensive scheme of forestation, and except in the vicinity of Port Edward and on the island, in a few mountain ravines, in the immediate neighbourhood of villages and in graveyards, and along Government high roads, the territory must be pronounced to be comparatively treeless. The appearance of the island, originally bleak and bare, has been transformed out of all recognition by the Government fir plantations which have done very well in spite of the ravages of the pine-moth (*gastropacha pini*). Similar plantations in other parts of the territory would necessitate the employment of a large staff of forest guards, to prevent the people from cutting down the young trees for firewood. The largest trees to be found in the territory are more or less isolated specimens of the sophora Japonica, catalpa, and maidenhair (*gingko biloba* or *Salisburia adiantifolia*). The last-named beautiful and interesting tree is found, as usual in both China and Japan, in proximity to sequestered Buddhist or Taoist temples. Several specimens of the gingko and sophora are regarded locally as sacred trees and are hung with the thank-offerings (usually small scraps of red cloth) of persons whose prayers are believed to have been answered by the tree-spirit.

"Many trees and shrubs have been introduced into Weihaiwei by the British Government and have done well. Among the latter are the wegelia rosea, lagerstroemia indica, silver elder, sea buckthorn, spiroea callosa, forsythia suspensa, and hibiscus syriacus.

"Fruit would grow well if the people could be induced to take a greater interest than they do in its cultivation. Apricots, pears and grapes are indigenous, but the two former are of comparatively poor quality. The British Government has introduced several kinds of Western fruit-trees—apple, pear, cherry, plum, peach, nectarine, and fig. Most of them are capable of thriving in the climate and soil of Weihaiwei, but fruit-culture has not yet engaged the serious attention of more than a few individuals."

(C) Sericulture.

In Weihaiwei the silk industry is an adjunct to agriculture. Most of the small farmers have "common" grazing or other rights over tracts of hill-land. Large parts of these tracts have been covered with scrub-oak (*quercus serrata*), on the leaves of which the wild silkworm is fed. Probably 100,000 acres of hill-land in the territory have been devoted to this useful purpose. Lack of the capital necessary for the establishment of filatures has hitherto prevented the farmers from taking more than a very modest share in the actual manufacture of silk, hence most of the cocoons still find their way to Chefoo.

(D) Fisheries.

Next to agriculture, the sea-fishing industry is the most important in Weihaiwei. In 1929 the registered fishing-junks belonging to the territory numbered 277. The local fleet is strengthened in spring by arrivals from other ports, mainly Manchuria. There are 1,139 of these junks on the temporary register in 1929. There are also 34 local motor-trawlers, and 9 from other ports. Fishing is carried out both by net and by hook. The catches comprise prawns, halibut, cod, sole, plaice, and several kinds of small fish relished only by Chinese. Large quantities of fish are shipped in ice to Shanghai and Tientsin, and are also carried by mules into the interior.

(E) Mining.

No mining operations have been undertaken in Weihaiwei since the abandonment of the gold-mine to which reference was made in the Report for 1927.

(F) Salt.

Considerable quantities of salt—far in excess of local requirements—are produced by evaporation in the lagoons on the coast of the territory. The export is mainly to Hong Kong, Korea, and Japan, but the quantities exported vary greatly from year to year owing to the great fluctuations in market prices. The number of salt-pans is 357, covering a total area of nearly 1,000 acres. Four years after the territory was leased to Great Britain the acreage under salt-pans was less than thirty. The revenue derived by Government from the salt-pans is very small. Apart from the shipping dues on exports it amounted to only $1,077 in 1929, an increase of $54 as compared with 1928. The revenue is obtained from registration and production fees.

(G) Lace-making.

This continues to be a thriving minor industry in the territory. It originated in the local Roman Catholic Convent, which has trained and is still training large numbers of village girls both in the art of designing and in practical bobbin-work ; but the industry is now largely in the hands of Chinese, who in many cases employ women who were trained in the Convent.

(H) Bricks and Tiles.

Owing to the rapid growth of Port Edward and the activity of building operations, the local brick and tile industry is at present unusually prosperous.

(I) Miscellaneous.

Various small industries have sprung into existence in recent years mainly to meet the requirements of foreign visitors. The local silversmiths produce good work for which there is a steady demand ; Weihaiwei pewter-ware is establishing a good reputation for itself ; and model junks made by local craftsmen attract much admiration and find a ready sale.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Merchant steamers to the number of 1,139, with a total net tonnage of 1,307,015 tons, called at Port Edward during 1929, as compared with 1,017 steamers, with a tonnage of 1,140,140, in 1928, and 858 steamers, with a tonnage of 1,029,478, in 1927. Of the steamers, 505 were British (as compared with 456 in 1928), 435 Japanese (as compared with 391), and 175 Chinese (as compared with 150). Steamers of other nationalities were American (9), Dutch (8), Danish (4), and German, Italian, and Norwegian (1 each).

Inward junks numbered 1,633 and outward 1,032, as compared with 1,752 and 646 in 1928.

The fact that in 1902 (the first year for which accurate records are available) only 146 steamers with a tonnage of 151,809 entered the port, shows that the trade and shipping of Weihaiwei have increased to a remarkable extent during the British occupation. Shipping dues (that is, harbour dues on steamers and junks and on outward and inward cargoes) have risen from $1,067 in 1903 to $144,426 in 1928–29 and $210,558 in 1929–30, and for some years past these dues have constituted by far the largest single item in the revenue of the territory.

The total volume of trade in 1929 amounted to 1,874,691 units valued at $26,128,618, as compared with 1,525,899 units valued at $19,744,543 in 1928, and 1,691,843 units valued at $17,650,100 in 1927.

The total imports were valued at $17,190,993, as compared with $13,955,100 and $11,182,989 in 1928 and 1927 respectively ; and exports at $8,937,625 as compared with $5,789,442 and $6,467,112 in the two previous years. The excess value of imports over exports was therefore $8,253,368 as compared with $8,165,658 in 1928 and $4,715,877 in 1927.

Though the above figures show a considerable expansion in trade, a large number of the Weihaiwei merchants suffered severe losses in 1929 owing to fluctuations in the groundnut and timber businesses and also to unfortunate speculations in the Dairen grain-market.

This accounts for an unusually large number of bankruptcies during 1929. It must be admitted that the losses referred to were to a great extent avoidable, and that most of the merchants concerned have only themselves to thank for the disasters which befell them. There were other contributory causes, however, for which the merchants of Weihaiwei were not in any way responsible, such as the fluctuations in exchange and the sudden shrinkage in groundnut exports resulting from the new import duty on groundnuts imposed in the United States of America.

The movement of merchandise is shown in the following summary :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*	*Net Imports.*	*Net Exports.*	*Increase or Decrease on 1928.*
	$	$	$	$	$
Beancakes, Beans, and Oil	242,025	7,423	234,602	—	— 9,577
Cigarettes and Tobacco ...	907,424	150,360	757,064	—	+ 468,000
Coal, Coke, and Charcoal...	206,828	3,648	203,180	—	+ 28,614
Cotton, Raw and Yarn ...	2,122,740	73,080	2,049,660	—	+ 171,650
Eggs	8,052	122,507	—	114,455	+ 28,391
Fish, Salt and Dried ...	124,666	206,472	—	81,806	+ 169,961*
Flour	864,472	82,856	781,616	—	+ 180,834
Groundnuts and Kernels...	886,830	3,654,612	—	2,767,782	— 23,744
Groundnut Oil	291,695	343,957	—	52,262	— 30,384
Gunny Bags	111,945	3,995	107,950	—	+ 9,435
Iron and Iron Sheets ...	401,190	23,220	377,970	—	+ 319,560
Kerosene Oil	148,850	2,820	146,030	—	+ 15,076
Maize and Millet	563,176	54,471	508,705	—	+ 44,932
Paper	171,246	49,264	121,982	—	+ 1,804
Piece Goods and Silk ...	3,196,240	583,060	2,613,180	—	— 633,080
Provisions	370,850	8,130	362,720	—	+ 14,560
Rice	757,152	79,216	677,936	—	+ 5,134
Sugar and Candies ...	1,740,873	850,944	889,929	—	+ 515,779
Timber	855,704	31,097	824,607	—	+ 700,707
Wine, Chinese	511,830	6,735	505,095	—	+ 185,410
Wine, Foreign	140,740	32,520	108,220		

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* In 1928 the excess value of imported over exported fish amounted to $88,155.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

(A) Roads.

Port Edward is connected by cart-roads, which have recently been made available for motor-traffic, with the following towns and ports in the Chinese hinterland : Chefoo, 60 miles ; Mou-p'ing, 40 ; Wên-têng, 30 ; Jung-ch'êng (the most easterly district-city in Shantung) 40 ; Li-tao, 45 ; and Shih-tao, 60.

The following are the distances by sea from Port Edward to the nearest Chinese ports with which it has commercial intercourse : Chefoo, 40 miles ; Taku, 243 ; Dairen, 110 ; Shanghai, 475 ; and Hong Kong, 1,186.

The land-frontier of the territory is about 40 miles long, and the point on the boundary which is nearest to Port Edward is one mile beyond the frontier police-post of Lutaok'ou, 13 miles, on the main road to Chefoo. The distance to the eastern boundary by road is nearly thirty miles.

The removal of the embargo on motor-traffic was heartily welcomed by the people, who gladly avail themselves of the bus services which now enable them to travel, speedily and comfortably, from end to end of the territory, and beyond it. As far as motor-transport is concerned, the inhabitants of Weihaiwei have shown nothing of the obstinate conservatism generally supposed to be characteristic of the Chinese people. The *shan-tzu* or mule-litter—till recently one of the favourite vehicles for women and children and elderly persons—is now beginning to be looked upon as a picturesque relic of a primitive era, and its gradual disappearance is probably regretted by European visitors (who, however, very rarely made use of it for purposes other than photographic) more than by the local Chinese.

Reference was made in the 1928 Report to the new motor-road which was being constructed across the northern peninsular portion of the territory to link up the two existing coast roads. The new road was completed and opened to traffic on 24th June, 1929, when the Commissioner in the presence of a large assembly of Chinese and foreigners unveiled a stone tablet erected by Government to commemorate the public spirit shown by the several hundred small farmers who, in response to a personal appeal made to them by him, had willingly surrendered, without compensation, all such portions of their land as were needed for the road. In the course of his speech on this occasion the Commissioner made the following remarks :—

> " We foreigners are apt to find fault with the Chinese for their lack of public spirit. It has been said—and I fear not unjustly—that while the Chinese are quite ready as a rule to sacrifice their individual interests in the wider interests of their family or clan, they are lacking in zeal for the common good of village, town or district. Even patriotism, as we understand it in the West, has only recently begun to make its appearance, sometimes in more or less dubious shapes, I fear, among the Chinese people. Whether this Western criticism of the Chinese character be justifiable or not, we can no longer say that the sacrifice of immediate personal interests on behalf of the general good of the community is never practised by the Chinese of Weihaiwei. Here we have a clear proof to the contrary."

(B) Telephones and Telegraphs.

Until 1928, there was no telephonic communication with any part of the territory outside Port Edward and the island. This defect, besides being an inconvenience to the general public, greatly hampered the Government in the administration of the territory, especially in connection with the work of the police, and is now being gradually rectified. The telephone system has already been extended to Lutaok'ou (the boundary police-post on the west) and to Wên-ch'üan-t'ang and Liu-iin-tzŭ in the heart of the territory.

For ordinary telegraphic communication with the outside world, Weihaiwei is dependent on a Chinese-owned land-line to Chefoo. The British-owned sea-cable to that port, though still in existence and serviceable, has not been in use since 1923.

(C) Steamship Communications.

Steamship communication with Shanghai, Tientsin, and Chefoo is regular and frequent, services of passenger and cargo steamers being maintained by the British firms of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company. There is also fairly frequent but irregular steamship communication with other ports, such as Hong Kong, Tsingtao, and Dairen. The port is also occasionally visited by ocean-going steamers plying between China and various American and European ports.

(D) Lighthouses.

There are two lighthouses in the Weihaiwei territory. One of these is situated at Flagstaff Point on the mainland, within the harbour. It was first lighted in 1898. In 1901 it was bought by the British Government from the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, and reconstructed. It has a white light, visible 12 miles, and a red light, visible 8 miles. Its latitude is 37° 29′ 41″, longitude 122° 8′ 10″.

The second lighthouse is situated on the mainland at the eastern entrance to the harbour (Chao-pei-tsui), latitude 37° 27′ 45″, longitude 122° 14′ 55″. Its light is visible 15 miles. This lighthouse was also bought by the British Government in 1901.

The cost of maintenance and the wages of the staff (exclusively Chinese) are paid by the Government of Weihaiwei.

(E) Posts.

There are agencies of the Hong Kong Post Office at Port Edward and on the island, and the stamps used are Hong Kong stamps surcharged "China." Foreign mails are carried by the shipping firm of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire in accordance with the terms of their mail contract with the Government of the Leased Territory. Communication with Europe is by the Suez and Siberian routes. Letters from London to Weihaiwei by the sea route take on an average about 40 days in transit, those despatched by the Siberian route about 16 to 22 days. The Chinese Postal Administration has a branch in the walled city of Weihaiwei which usefully supplements the postal services conducted through the British Office.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

(A) Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction.

The judicial system and procedure of Weihaiwei are laid down in the Weihaiwei Order in Council, 1901. Civil and criminal jurisdiction is vested in the High Court, the Judge of which is appointed under His Majesty's Sign Manual. As the Judge is non-resident, and rarely visits Weihaiwei, the powers of a Judge of the High Court are vested in the Commissioner. The Magistrates, of whom there are two, are also empowered, under the Order in Council, to exercise the delegated powers of the High Court in the majority of cases, both civil and criminal. In civil suits between Chinese, the Courts follow Chinese law and custom so far as they are not repugnant to British conceptions of morality and justice.

The number of civil suits commenced during 1929 was 415, as compared with 279 in 1928, 281 in 1927, and 239 in 1926. Of the 415 suits commenced during the year under review, 381 had received at least one hearing by 31st December.

Criminal and police cases numbered 955, as compared with 646 in 1928. The total number of persons convicted was 1,899, of whom 220 were imprisoned and 1,609 fined. Cases of assault and other offences against the person numbered 198. There were 3 inquest cases, 108 gambling cases, 175 breaches of the Opium Ordinance, 99 breaches of Arms and Ammunition Ordinance, Liquor Licences Ordinance, Export and Import Prohibition Ordinance, Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance, Stamp Tax Ordinance and other Ordinances, and 198 breaches of Common Lodging House, Harbour, Motor Traffic, Sampan, Sanitary, Shipping Dues, Vehicle and other Regulations. 110 cases of more serious crime occurred, namely :—

2	Accessory after the fact of burglary.
1	Embezzlement.
1	Accessory after the fact of kidnapping.
2	Escaping from lawful custody.
2	Accessory before and after the fact of armed robbery.
1	Accessory before the fact of forgery.
2	Forgery.
1	Harbouring escaped prisoners.
1	Arson.
1	Kidnapping.
1	Attempted burglary.
55	Larceny.
1	Attempted housebreaking.
1	Libel.
2	Attempted larceny.
1	Manslaughter.
11	Burglary.

2 Murder.
1 Causing bodily injuries maliciously.
7 Robbery with arms.
1 Conspiracy to defraud.
1 Shooting with intent to evade arrest.
2 Demanding money with menaces.
10 Possession or receiving of stolen property.

There were 64 suicides, as compared with 81 in 1928.

Fourteen criminal cases came before the High Court and were dealt with by the Judge or by the Commissioner in his judicial capacity, namely: murder (1), robbery with violence (2), forgery (2), accessory after the fact of armed robbery, escaping from lawful custody, arson, harbouring escaped prisoners, shooting with intent to evade arrest, receiving stolen property, burglary, demanding money with menaces, malicious wounding (1 each).

Serious crime was formerly very rare in this territory, but has increased to a considerable extent in recent years, owing to the influx of undesirable characters from the Chinese side of the border. Banditry, civil war, misgovernment, and the social and political restlessness which revolution has brought in its train are answerable for the chaos and lawlessness which prevail in this part of China and which inevitably have an adverse effect on conditions within the Leased Territory.

(B) Legislation.

Legislative authority is vested in the Commissioner, but Ordinances enacted by him are subject to disallowance by the King acting on the advice of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The Ordinances enacted in 1929 were three in number, namely, the Banishment and the Conditional Pardons (Amendment) Ordinance, the Banishment and the Conditional Pardons (Second Amendment) Ordinance, and the Gambling Ordinance No. 7 of 1906 (Amendment) Ordinance.

(C) Police.

The Police Force at the end of 1929 consisted of three European Inspectors, 24 Chinese non-commissioned officers and 167 men. One of the Inspectors (who is also Superintendent of the Gaol) and 21 Chinese police (including 10 prison warders) are stationed on the Island of Liukung, and an Inspector and 76 Chinese at Port Edward. The remainder of the force is distributed among 15 posts in the interior and on the boundary, under the supervision of the Territory Inspector.

(D) Prisons.

The Weihaiwei Prison is situated on the Island of Liukung and has accommodation for 70 male and 20 female prisoners. At Port Edward there is also a small prison with seven cells for short-sentence prisoners only.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

No new public works of importance were undertaken during 1929. The scanty funds available for such purposes were mainly expended on the improvement of existing roads and bridges, the rounding-off of corners which since the introduction of motor-traffic had been proved to be dangerous, and the extension of the drainage system of Port Edward, to keep pace with the steady growth of the town.

There are in existence approved schemes for harbour improvement, including the building of a breakwater and the construction of a small pier and sea-wall to meet the needs of the southern section of Port Edward, which is being rapidly developed. Funds for these projects are being accumulated by means of a surtax on shipping dues. At the end of the financial year 1929–30 this fund amounted to $78,533.00, and it is hoped that during 1930 it will be found possible to expend at least a portion of this sum on one of the approved schemes of development.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

(A) Public Health.

It has long been recognized that Weihaiwei is one of the healthiest places on the coast of China. It is for this reason that it has become a noted holiday-resort for European residents in other parts of the country ; and it was also in recognition of its excellent climatic and hygienic conditions that Weihaiwei was chosen by the military authorities as the site of a Convalescent Camp for the officers and men of the Shanghai Defence Force. It has been used as such from 1927, the year in which that Force was sent out to China.

During 1929 the health of the foreign community, both residents and visitors, was excellent. In spite of the occurrence of epidemic diseases in the neighbouring ports, no case of infectious illness was seen among those who spent the summer months in Weihaiwei. An isolated case of *encephalitis lethargica* made a good recovery. There were four births and six deaths among Europeans, two of the latter occurring among the British troops and one in the fleet.

The health of the Chinese community was also good, and epidemics were rare and mild.

Owing to the prevalence of smallpox in neighbouring ports, the annual vaccination campaign was carried out with rather more vigour than usual. At the hospitals 1,916 vaccinations took place, as compared with 1,759 in 1928, while the public vaccinators touring the territory recorded 11,293 cases as compared with 6,909. The result was that no case of smallpox was observed among the Chinese during the year under review, though in the early days of the British occupation of Weihaiwei the disease was exceedingly prevalent and attended by a high mortality.

With regard to the locally-prevalent disease of kala-azar, the Senior Medical Officer (Dr. L. McGolrick) reports as follows:—

> "The clinic established in 1924 for the treatment of kala-azar continues to be one of the most satisfactory features in the Medical Department. In the Annual Report for 1925 it is stated that 438 injections were given, and this year the number has risen to 2,186. Sixty-two new cases were diagnosed, of which 51 returned for regular treatment. The efficacy of the antimony tartrate treatment is fully appreciated by the patients, and cases come to the hospital at a much earlier stage than formerly, with increasing benefit to themselves.
>
> "These injections are now also given at the branch hospital at Wên-ch'üan-t'ang, for the benefit of those to whom the bi-weekly journey to Port Edward is a too formidable undertaking."

On the subject of leprosy, of which there are about 70 cases in the territory, the Senior Medical Officer has submitted the following observations:—

> "The treatment of leprosy with Alepol begun in 1928 was continued, visits being paid twice weekly to the different treatment centres. Seventeen lepers were under treatment. It is a matter for regret that the patients do not come more regularly. Often ten days to a fortnight intervenes between injections. Several factors contribute to this. First, there is the peculiar apathy of the lepers themselves, which may indeed be a result of the disease; and it is difficult to make them realize that treatment must be prolonged and progress slow. Then, again, most of them live some distance from the treatment centres on the main roads, and crippled and maimed from the disease as many of them are, it is only on the finest days that they will face the long walk that is necessary. Finally, the injections produce at times moderately severe reactions, and the patients are not fit to walk to their treatment centre when the next injection day comes round. It is hoped to build a leper hospital in the near future, where these cases can be accommodated and treated with greater facility."

For further observations on the subject of leprosy in Weihaiwei, reference should be made to the Annual Report for 1928, page 21.

Rabies is unfortunately by no means rare in China, and in spite of all the precautions taken in Weihaiwei cases of human hydrophobia occasionally occur. Towards the end of 1929 a rabid dog attacked and bit seven persons. All were treated with anti-rabic vaccine, but one of the patients (a police constable) who had been bitten on the head, subsequently died.

Quarantine restrictions were imposed for short periods on arrivals from Hong Kong during a smallpox epidemic in that Colony, and from Shanghai, which in August was declared infected with cholera. Only one (imported) case of cholera was seen in Weihaiwei.

64 suicides were reported during the year, as compared with 81 in 1928. Arsenic and opium were the agents employed in most of these cases.

The Island of Liukung, which contains the naval establishment, naval sick quarters, recreation grounds, canteen, clubs, etc., was officially reported to be "in a splendid sanitary condition."

(B) Hospital.

Besides the Royal Naval Sick Quarters, there are three Government hospitals in the territory: one (the largest) at Port Edward, under the direct superintendence of the Senior Medical Officer; one on the Island of Liukung, where there is a Western-trained Chinese doctor under the supervision of the resident surgeon-commander, who holds the additional post of Medical Officer for the Island under the civil authorities; and a third at Wên-ch'üan-t'ang, in the heart of the territory 13 miles from Port Edward, which is also in charge of a Western-trained Chinese doctor under European supervision.

The total number of out-patients attending the three civil hospitals was 21,675, which exceeded the 1928 figures by 1,364. In-patients numbered 277.

(C) Meteorological.

The total rainfall for the year was very low, being only 16.16 inches. The yearly average is 27 inches. Rain fell on 54 days. For the first six months of the calendar year the total fall recorded was only 2.07 inches. This occasioned considerable anxiety not only with regard to the wheat crop (which for the third year in succession was a very poor one, solely owing to drought) but also on account of a threatened failure of the water-supply. Fortunately the fear of a water-famine was removed by the comparatively heavy rainfall which took place in June.

The highest temperature recorded in 1929 was 102° F. on 3rd June. This has been exceeded only once since observations began to be taken, namely in the preceding year, when a temperature of 105° F. was recorded. It is noteworthy that the three years 1927, 1928, and 1929 have had the highest temperatures in the history of the territory. The lowest temperature in 1929 was 12° F., on 1st and 2nd February. The lowest temperature recorded in Weihaiwei was 1° F. in 1913.

The highest barometer reading was 30·846 on 12th March, the lowest 29·974 in June, the monthly average varying from 1·22 in March to 0·3 in May.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Until recent years, financial stringency made it impossible for the Government to do much for the promotion of education, which therefore had to be left to private enterprise. The Government's efforts in this direction were practically limited to the maintenance of one boys' school in Port Edward. All the larger and many of the smaller villages in the territory support old-style village schools of their own, and the various missionary bodies (Roman Catholic, Anglican, and "Brethren") have all done good educational work which till 1928 received no practical recognition from Government. In that year small grants-in-aid were for the first time awarded to the Mission schools and two others, and in 1929 a grant of $1,000 was allocated in the Estimates to a limited number of the village schools.

The Government also contributes a substantial amount towards the maintenance of the leading school in the territory—the Weihai Middle School—of which an account was given in the 1928 Report. An admirable site for the new buildings of this institution was provided by Government in that year, and in the Estimates for 1929–30 a sum of $5,000 was granted towards the building fund. The new buildings were formally opened by the Commissioner on 14th August, 1929. Since 1927, a portion of the maintenance expenses of this school has been defrayed by a small surtax on the land-tax; but it is mainly dependent on Government grants ($3,000 has been provided for this purpose in the Estimates for 1930–31) and on subscriptions from local merchants and other residents.

In spite of the combined efforts of the Government and all those interested in education, it is probable that nearly ninety per cent. of the inhabitants of the territory are illiterate. According to the census returns for 1921, the persons who could read or write at that time were declared to be only 14,000 out of a population of 150,000; and of that small number only 227 were females. The number of literates is still estimated at less than 20,000.

The following table gives the number of pupils attending the principal modern schools during 1929:—

	Day Pupils.	*Boarders.*	*Total.*
Weihai Middle School (Boys) ...	121	42	163
Island School (Boys and Girls) ...	54	—	54
Huang Jen Government School (Boys).	190	—	190
Shu Te School for Girls	50	—	50
Chiu Hua School for small boys and girls,	42	—	42
Anglican School (Boys)	32	34	66
"Brethren" School	46	75	121
Roman Catholic School (Boys) ...	176	36	212
Roman Catholic School (Girls) ...	82	—	82
Roman Catholic Kindergarten ...	37	—	37
Roman Catholic Boys' School at village of Yen T'an.	26	—	26
	856	187	1,043

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

No cadastral survey of the territory has ever been undertaken, but the 2-inch to a mile survey carried out by the Royal Engineers in 1898–9 has been of great practical use for administrative purposes.

Much of the land of the territory is hill-land unfit for cultivation; but a great deal of this hill-land, over which the villagers have common rights, is utilized for growing the scrub-oak which the Shantung peasants use for feeding the silk-worm.

Land fit for cultivation is nearly all privately-owned. Agricultural land is difficult to buy, not only on account of the density of the agricultural population, which in itself would tend to keep land-values up to a high level, but also because cultivated land very rarely comes into the open market. Every Chinese agricultural landowner in Weihaiwei—and this applies with equal force to the neighbouring parts of the province of Shantung and to many other parts of China—is by custom debarred from selling his land to strangers. If he is compelled by circumstances to part with his land he is obliged to offer it first to his nearest relatives of the same surname. Only if they all refuse to buy (at a price which is considered reasonable by the elders of his clan) he may be regarded as free to sell to an outsider. But it is very rarely, except in times of famine or political upheaval, that the seller is met with refusals by all the appropriate members of his clan in their order of precedence or seniority.

Building sites in Port Edward and its vicinity have rapidly increased in value during the past few years, partly owing to the commercial expansion of the port and partly on account of the influx of well-to-do refugees from the turbulent regions adjoining the Leased Territory.

XI.—LABOUR.

As stated in the Report for 1928, there are no local labour unions or organizations in Weihaiwei other than the ordinary old-fashioned Chinese trade-guilds, the relations of which with the Government have always been excellent.

The vast majority of the inhabitants of Weihaiwei are farmers and fishermen; and as nearly all the farmers are peasant-proprietors, who till the lands handed down to them by their ancestors through many generations, disputes between agricultural labourers and their employers are unknown. In the only urban district in the territory—the Port Edward area—the relations between employers and employed are harmonious, though the steady increase in the cost of living necessitates fairly frequent readjustments of wages.

For further observations on labour conditions, and on the entry of women into the local labour market, reference should be made to the Report for 1927.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

During 1929 the changes in the administrative staff were few in number. Mr. H. I. Prideaux-Brune, Secretary to Government and Senior District Officer, was succeeded on 10th September by Mr. A. Archer, O.B.E., and Captain C. E. Thurston, M.C., Junior District Officer and Magistrate, was succeeded on 1st December by Major J. M. Colchester-Wemyss, O.B.E., late of The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment).

For the greater part of the year the British garrison of the territory consisted of one company of the second battalion of the Royal Scots. This company left Weihaiwei on 6th November and was relieved by a company of the second battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

In June the China squadron of the British fleet (under Vice-Admiral Sir A. K. Waistell, K.C.B.) paid its annual visit to Weihaiwei and remained in the port throughout the summer. The only foreign man-of-war which visited Weihaiwei was the U.S.S. PITTSBURGH, flagship of the American commander-in-chief, Admiral Mark Bristol, which arrived on 16th August. A pleasant interchange of courtesies between the American and British commanders-in-chief took place on the eve of the former's retirement from his command.

As the retrocession of the territory is expected to take place before the end of 1930, this may possibly be the last Annual Report to be issued by the British Administration. The two main sources of gratification to those British officials who have had the pleasure of serving in Weihaiwei will be, firstly, the memory of the happy and cordial relations that have existed between the British community (official and unofficial) and the Chinese population ; and, secondly, the knowledge that during those long years of strife and chaos which brought unutterable misery to the people of Shantung and other parts of China, the people of Weihaiwei—together with thousands of refugees from the adjacent Chinese districts—enjoyed uninterrupted tranquillity and prosperity under the protection of the British flag.

R. F. JOHNSTON,
Commissioner.

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